

Sexual health and behaviour of New South Wales prisoners

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RESEARCH

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the NSW part of an NHMRC-funded study of NSW and Queensland prisoners. Its aim was to study the sexual behaviour, health and attitudes of prisoners as a vulnerable population often omitted from community surveys even when outside prison, and to examine sexual issues in prison such as health service use, condom use, sex between inmates and sexual coercion.

1118 men and 199 women in NSW were randomly selected in 2006–07 to participate in a computer-assisted telephone interview. This is the first time telephone interviewing has been used in a statewide prison health survey.

Prisoners were personally informed of the purpose and content of the study and gave written informed consent.

Prisoners were ineligible if they could not speak English, were intellectually disabled, were too mentally ill, were unavailable (e.g. being transferred, in court or in hospital) or could not safely be moved to the telephone location. Of eligible and available inmates, 80% agreed to take part and provided complete data.

In addition to the telephone survey, a smaller group of prisoners and ex-prisoners recruited by purposive sampling was interviewed in depth.

The sample

Before coming to prison, 57% of men and 54% of women lived in a household without a landline telephone and would thus have been ineligible for telephone population health surveys. Only 20% men and 24% women had done a telephone survey before.

18% men and 25% women were of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background.

More than half (58% men, 72% women) had Year 10 schooling or less.

The most common offences were assault and property offences.

Prisoners' health was less good than that of the general community. 11% men and 13% women had a disability that hindered mobility. 74% men and 85% women were current smokers. Before coming to prison, 17% men and 32% women did

not drink alcohol, but 29% men and 18% women drank at NHMRC 'hazardous' or 'risky' levels. Most (>80%) had taken non-prescribed drugs, and 55% men and 77% women had injected drugs in their lifetime.

Sexuality and relationships

In sexual identity and experience, female prisoners were very different from the general population (among whom <2% of women identify as bisexual). Male prisoners were much more similar to the general population.

For both men and women with same-sex experience, the majority had it outside prison or both inside and outside.

Table 1 'Do you think of yourself as ... ?'

	Men %	Women %
Heterosexual or straight	95	63
Bisexual	3	29
Homosexual (gay/lesbian)	1	7

Table 2 'Have you had (any kind of) sexual experience ... ?'

	Men %	Women %
Only with other sex	89	41
Mostly with other sex	8	39
Equally with both sexes	1	10
Mostly with same sex	1	9
Only with same sex	<1	2
No one	1	0

Table 3 Where inmates had sexual contact with same sex (% of total sample)

	Men %	Women %
Outside prison	7	22
Both inside and outside prison	3	29
In prison	2	8
Total	11	59

Regular relationships

80% men and 70% women had a regular opposite-sex partner before they were sent to prison. A minority (42% men, 29% women) were using contraception in the relationship.

Reproductive experiences (women)

80% of the women had been pregnant; age at first pregnancy ranged from 13 to 40. Of the sample, 67% had had ≥ 1 child, and 38% had had ≥ 1 abortion.

Sexual forcing or coercion

14% men and 59% women said they had been 'forced or frightened into doing something sexually that they did not want to do' in their lifetime.

Sexual attitudes

Prisoners' attitudes on sexual matters were similar to those of the general community, except that they were more likely to disapprove of abortion, and the men were much more likely to regard sex between men as wrong (Table 4).

In prison

Sex in prison

6% men said they had ever had any sexual contact (including touching) with another inmate during the current or any previous sentence; 5% said it was consensual, 1% that it was not. For many this was only touching or oral sex, not anal sex. 4% said it was for pleasure and 1% that it was for protection; <1% did it for drugs or food/tobacco.

Most men disapproved of sex in prison and considered that men who did it were gay.

36% women had had any sexual contact (including touching) with another inmate. Almost all said it was consensual. 29% did it for pleasure, 2% for protection and 4% for drugs, food/tobacco or other debt.

Condoms and dental dams

Most men (94%) had access to a condom machine; 50% had ever taken a condom packet from a machine, but only 2% of men had used one for sex in prison. Women had access to dental dams; 4% had ever used one for sex with a woman in prison.

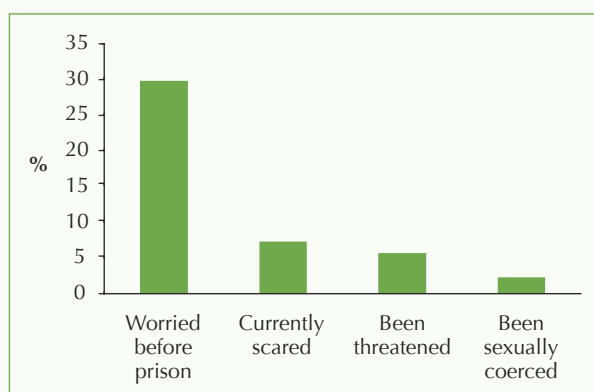


Figure 1 Sexual coercion in prison: perception before prison and experience in prison

Sexual assault

Men were concerned before they came to prison that they might be sexually assaulted, but few currently feared assault and even fewer (2%) had been assaulted/coerced (Figure 1).

Physical assault

34% men and 27% women said they had been assaulted or attacked in prison.

In-depth face-to-face interviews

The qualitative component of the study involved in-depth interviews with 59 prisoners and ex-prisoners. These focused on issues that could not be explored in detail in the questionnaire survey and some that concerned only a minority of prisoners: sex between prisoners, gay men in prison, HIV+ people in prison, transgender inmates, the prison 'economy' of tobacco etc., and aspects of prison culture and relations between inmates.

Table 4 Prisoners' agreement with sexual attitude statements

	Men % agree	Women % agree
Films these days are too sexually explicit	35	42
Sex before marriage is acceptable	88	85
If two people had oral sex, but not intercourse, you would still consider that they had had sex together	76	79
An active sex life is important for your sense of well-being	84	67
Abortion is always wrong	47	27
Having an affair when in a committed relationship is always wrong	80	73
Sex tends to get better the longer you know someone	70	76
Sex between two adult women is always wrong	23	15
Sex between two adult men is always wrong	62	29

INTRODUCTION

Prisoners are a high-risk group for sexual ill health. This has consequences for the wider community (Butler et al., 2000, 2001; Miranda et al., 2000; Cohen et al., 1992). Prisoners are largely drawn from the most disadvantaged and stigmatised groups in the community. Most come from backgrounds of low socio-economic status, low education and low income, many suffer from minor intellectual disabilities, many have a mental illness or a history of injecting drug use, and a disproportionate number are indigenous. The proportion of prisoners with a self-reported history of one or more sexually transmissible infections (STIs) is higher than in the general population (Butler & Milner, 2003; Grulich et al., 2003a), and the prevalence of herpes simplex virus type 2 among prisoners is higher than in the general population (Butler & Milner, 2003; Cunningham et al., 2006; Sasadeusz et al., 2008). Prisoners are regarded as 'bridging' population with the potential – disproportionate to their numbers – to disseminate HIV and other STIs and blood-borne infections into the general population.

Yet little is known about prisoners' sexual behaviour and sexual health. Prisoners are excluded from community surveys that are based on household sampling, for example the Australian Study of Health and Relationships (ASHR), the NSW Population Health Survey, the Australian Bureau of Statistics National Health Survey and the National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing (Smith et al., 2003; NSW Department of Health, 2007; Australian Bureau of Statistics [ABS], 1999, 2007). This omission is not usually addressed by specific prison-based research, and therefore prisoners are under-surveyed. Even when out of prison they may be more likely than other members of the population to be omitted from household and other surveys, for example because of insecure housing or lack of a landline telephone.

There are also issues specifically about incarceration that warrant investigation. There is a widespread popular impression that anal rape and other forms of sexual assault are rife in men's prisons. This impression is fuelled by films such as *The Shawshank Redemption* (Darabont, 1994) and

among professionals by books such as Heilpern's *Fear or Favour: Sexual Assault of Young Prisoners* (1998). Low rates of complaints by victims are explained (e.g. by Banbury, 2004) as a result of stigma leading victims to suffer in silence and conceal their injuries. Recently various jurisdictions have attempted to collect accurate information on this topic (Gaes & Goldberg, 2004; Clem, 2007).

Consensual sex in prisons has also been a focus of attention, after arguments that inmates should be provided with the means to protect themselves from HIV and other STIs in prison if they should choose to have sex (which is not illegal). Following the legal action instituted by a group of indigenous prisoners in 1993 (Sider, 1994; *Prisoners A–XX Inclusive v. State of NSW*, 38 NSWLR 622, 1995) condoms were introduced into NSW correctional centres in September 1996. Condoms were not introduced earlier because of fears that an increase in sexual assault among inmates would result. The distribution of condoms and dental dams in NSW correctional centres since 1996 has thus far not produced any serious adverse consequences. In fact, reports of consensual male-to-male sex and sexual assault have decreased since then (Butler, 1997; Butler & Milner, 2003; Yap et al., 2007).

The condom program makes available through dispensing machines and prison clinics small kits each containing one condom, a sachet of lubricant, information on the correct use of condoms and a plastic zip-lock bag. Dental dams are similarly available in women's prisons. In 2005, approximately 30 000 condoms and dental dams were distributed to prisoners per month in New South Wales. There is no published information on the need for or use of dental dams for sex between women in any prison system.

This study

In 2005 the Sexual Health and Attitudes of Australian Prisoners study (chief investigators Tony Butler, Juliet Richters, Basil Donovan and Tony Falconer) received funding for three years from the National Health and Medical Research Council to investigate the sexual health, knowledge, attitudes



and behaviour of prisoners in New South Wales and Queensland. The study also aimed to investigate the factors associated with sexual practices in prison and to examine the impact of condom availability on sexual behaviour in prison. These objectives were to explore factors associated with sexual practices in jail and to examine the impact of condom availability on sexual behaviours in prison by comparing one state with (New South Wales) and one state without (Queensland) a policy of distributing condoms.

This report

This report deals only with the results from New South Wales prisons. Future publications will report on the Queensland survey findings and compare the two jurisdictions.

The report presents frequencies of responses to most questions in the survey. More detailed analysis including cross-tabulation and hypothesis-testing will be done in future publications.

The timing and scope of this report do not allow for detailed analysis of the qualitative data. Quotations from the in-depth interviews that illustrate certain points from the telephone survey

have been inserted in boxes. Note, however, that the interviewees are not the same people who responded to the telephone survey, and some were in prison many years ago.

Terminology

We use the term 'sexual partner' to indicate anyone with whom the respondent had sex, whether or not he or she was a partner in the social sense, such as a regular boyfriend, wife or lover. We have used the term 'opposite-sex partner' to mean a male partner of a woman, or a female partner of a man, but we do not wish to imply that males and females are sexual opposites or necessarily complementary even where they do consistently differ.

We use the term 'sex' to mean any form of sexual conduct, not just intercourse. Where vaginal or anal intercourse is meant, this is specified. The term 'oral sex' is used to refer to fellatio and cunnilingus, but not rimming (anilingus) unless specified. 'Manual sex' is used to refer to fondling, caressing or rubbing of the genitals by the partner's finger(s) or hand.

We use the terms 'jail' and 'prison' interchangeably.

METHODS

The study had two parts: a random-sample survey of current NSW inmates by computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI), and in-depth interviews with prisoners and ex-prisoners recruited by purposive sampling. These components of the study are detailed separately below.

Telephone survey

Sampling

The planned sample size for the survey (about 1100 men and 250 women) represented approximately 13% of the male inmate population and 40% of the female inmate population as at 30 July 2006 (Corben, 2006). Random sampling was used to select survey participants. The approach to sampling was similar to that used in the NSW Inmate Health Surveys in 1996 and 2001 (Butler, 1997; Butler & Milner, 2003).

A list of all inmates at a particular prison was obtained from the Department of Corrective Services (DCS) a few days before the interview period. The list was imported into SPSS 15.0 for Windows and a random sample drawn so as to achieve the target sample size. It was necessary to draw each prison sample as close to the interview period as possible to maximise the chance that those eligible for selection were currently at the prison when the recruiters arrived.

Supplementary lists were randomly generated to replace inmates who were unavailable or ineligible or refused to participate in the study. Study codes were generated for all inmates randomly selected to take part in the study. Study codes consisted of a two-digit prison-specific code plus a six-digit inmate MIN (unique identifier) and the inmate's last and first initials (e.g. 01/123456/SJ). This code, unique for each inmate, allowed the study team to identify inmates who needed their interviews rescheduled. The code was also used to link survey responses with demographic information provided by DCS. Once all surveys were completed and data linked, the data records were de-identified and subjects automatically numbered.

A number of inmates in isolated and remote settings such as work camps and Ivanhoe Prison in far western NSW (total < 1% of the NSW prison

population) were not covered by the sampling technique, due to the high cost of travel and logistical difficulties, in particular the lack of suitable rooms with telephone sockets in which to conduct interviews. As inmates are frequently moved between work camps and larger prisons, it is unlikely that the omission of such prisoners would have produced any substantial bias in the findings.

Prisoners in transitional centres, police court cell complexes and periodic detention centres were not part of the survey.

Recruitment

Inmate recruitment was done primarily by recruiters employed by the study who remained on site for the duration of interviewing. For the remote sites of Brewarrina and Broken Hill, recruitment was done by NSW Justice Health nurses.

Inmates who were randomly selected to participate in the study were called to interview rooms one at a time where they were given a full verbal explanation of the study by the recruiter and provided with a written information sheet and consent form.

The following aspects of the survey were explained during the recruitment process:

- Selection for recruitment was random.
- Participants could withdraw from the study at any time, i.e. terminate the interview, and they could decline to respond to individual questions they did not wish to answer.
- Participation in the study was completely voluntary.
- Participants would be asked a variety of questions relating to sex in and out of prison including their sexual practices and relationships, sexual health and attitudes to sex.
- Demographic and offending information would be obtained from DCS.
- Inmates participating in the study would be paid \$10 by bank transfer into their prison account after completing the survey.
- Data would be de-identified when complete, and no one would be able to tell that the inmate took part in the study.

- The project was a Justice Health initiative.
- The phone survey would be conducted in private and the phone being used would not be monitored by DCS.
- Information given by the inmate during the survey would not be made available to custodial staff.
- All study participants would be seen by the recruiter after their interview to ensure they were not distressed in any way and to refer them to appropriate health care workers or counsellors if necessary.
- The recruiter would not know the respondent's answers to the survey.

After full explanations were provided and all inmate questions answered, written consent was obtained from the inmate before the interview.

The study aimed to exclude as few subjects as possible. However, several categories of inmates were excluded:

- inmates who did not speak sufficient English
- those with profound intellectual disabilities
- inmates who were acutely mentally ill
- inmates who in the opinion of custodial officers could not safely be moved to the interview area
- inmates who were unavailable because they were being transferred between prisons, were in court or hospital, or who could not be released from their work
- those who refused to provide written consent
- those who had previously been selected for interview at another prison.

Interviews

All interviews were conducted via telephone by interviewers at Taverner Research, a market and social research company located in Surry Hills, Sydney. Once an inmate was recruited and ready to be interviewed, the recruiter contacted Taverner Research and notified them of the extension to be used for the interview. Within minutes, the interviewer would dial in and begin the interview. To minimise down-time for interviewers and maximise access time to inmates, recruiters endeavoured to have another inmate recruited and

ready to begin their interview while the previous respondent was being interviewed.

Interviews were conducted in private, usually in a meeting room, empty office or clinic, so that the inmate would have privacy but be under the supervision of the recruiter. Telephones used for the surveys were keypad disabled so that participants could not dial out. Taverner interviewers were all female, but a male interviewer could be provided if requested.

No NSW respondent asked for a male interviewer.

As the survey contained questions on sensitive issues such as sexual abuse and assault, all inmates were seen by the recruiter after their interview to ensure that they were not distressed. This post-interview debrief was guided by the use of a post-interview follow-up form. The inmate could be referred to the public/sexual health nurse if they needed to speak to someone regarding sexual abuse/assault or if they had any concerns for their sexual health.

Interviews with male inmates took from 19 minutes up to 60 minutes for a few prisoners with more complex sexual histories. The average was approximately 30 minutes, with the whole process of recruitment to debrief generally taking 45 minutes. Interviews with female inmates were longer on average, approximately 40 minutes, with the whole process of recruitment to debrief generally taking an hour. More of the women had complex sexual histories that involved them answering more sections of the questionnaire, e.g. concerning sex work or experience of sexual coercion.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire was based on that used for the Australian Study of Health and Relationships (Smith et al., 2003), with some minor adaptation of question and/or response wording to allow for the lower average education levels of this sample and the addition of further sections on experiences in prison. The CATI structure meant that respondents who stated that something did not apply to them (for example, they had never had anal intercourse) were not asked again later in the interview about (for example) condom use for anal intercourse.

The one exception to this was a confirmatory check question later in the interview about same-sex contact.

Reported occupations for those prisoners who had formerly been employed were allocated by Taverner interviewers to Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) codes. An inmate's town or suburb of former residence was converted to postcode. Emotional wellbeing (anxiety and misery) was measured using the first six (Cronbach $\alpha = 0.83$) items from the Kessler-10 scale (Clinical Research Unit for Anxiety and Depression [CRUfAD], 2000).

Sexual assault or coercion is notoriously variable in how it has been measured in different studies (Laumann et al., 1994). The reported prevalence may be very high if all instances of sexual harassment or pressure, or of regretted or unwanted sex, are included, or very low if tight definitions specifying 'rape' or physical threats are employed. In this study, experience of sexual coercion, both lifetime and in prison, was ascertained with the question 'Have you ever been forced or frightened by a male or a female into doing something sexually that you did not want to do?' This question was used in the Australian Study of Health and Relationships (De Visser et al., 2003a, 2007) and is based on that in the US National Health and Social Life Survey (Laumann et al., 1994). Remarkably similar proportions of Americans in 1990 and Australians in 2001–02 (US 3.6% men, 22.3% women; Australia 4.8% men, 21.1% women) answered yes to this question, and we regard it as a reproducible measure of lifetime experience of sexual coercion.

Analysis

After demographic and offence data from DCS had been added to each respondent's interview data record and the identifying code removed and replaced with a study code, the data were analysed using SPSS 15.0 (2006). In this report, most variables are simply reported descriptively. Chi-squared analyses were used to generate *p* values where necessary to identify significant differences between men and women or other subgroups.

In-depth interviews

Recruitment

Respondents outside prison were introduced to the interviewer by community workers, social workers and counsellors, or recruited using printed flyers in community organisations (e.g. for drug users or sex workers) that were accessed by ex-prisoners. Interviews were conducted in private at these community venues.

Current prisoner respondents were asked to participate in interviews using a snowball sampling strategy: prison nurses introduced the researcher to inmates who then introduced their friends and so on. Participants were purposively selected to ensure variation in gender, sexual orientation and length of incarceration (short or long term), with deliberate oversampling of those who had had sex in prison and who could discuss prison sexual culture. Prison location was not an important factor in selecting participants since most inmates had been transferred to more than one prison during one or more episodes of their incarceration.

Ex-prisoners received \$30 to cover costs of attending the interview, such as transport fares. Prisoners received \$10 paid to their prison account to cover lost time at work.

Data collection

Open-ended discussions followed a preset interview guide on sexual attitudes, sexual practice, sexual violence, social and sexual networks inside prison, prison culture, and use of condoms and/or dental dams. The interview guide was modified to further investigate other related themes brought up by inmates. See Appendix 2 for a list of themes explored.

Voluntary written informed consent was gained from all participants.

Analysis

Recorded interviews were transcribed and any potential identifying biographical details were removed.

Transcripts were coded using NVivo qualitative research software and analysed into different topics and themes discussed during the interviews.



Ethics approval

Ethics approval was provided by the NSW Justice Health Human Research Ethics Committee (GEN5/05) and ratified by the University of New South Wales Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC 05045). The NSW Department of Corrective Services Ethics Committee (Ref 05/0882) recommended approval of the study, which was approved by the Commissioner of Corrective Services as required by the *Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act* for all research conducted with inmates.

RESULTS PART 1: THE TELEPHONE SURVEY SAMPLE

The sample

Telephone interviewing was carried out between September 2006 and July 2007. Table 1.1 (next page) shows the number of prisoners on the randomly generated lists of prisoner identification numbers and the participation rate among eligible and available inmates (84.5% for women, 82.6% for men and 82.9% overall). Figure 1.1 shows the process of sample selection in flow chart form. Inmates excluded before the sample was drawn were those in acute crisis units, Crown witnesses and SuperMax inmates.

After the interview data were cleaned and combined with the demographic data supplied by DCS, a further 46 interviews were discarded because the interview was abandoned (due to the respondent's lack of English or because the respondent withdrew), or because the DCS record and the Taverner record could not be matched. This left 1118 complete interviews with men (79.5% of available and eligible inmates) and 199 with women (83.6%).

Item response rates

Response rates were very high for questions asked of all respondents, varying between 99.7% (Q15DEM Usual job before prison) and 100.0%. In other surveys (e.g. Smith et al., 2003), the questions that provoked the highest item refusals concerned income rather than sexual topics. However, this was not the case in this survey, in which certain questions on sexual topics asked of small subgroups of the respondents had higher refusal rates (for example, for men the highest refusal rate was 9.5% for one of the sex work questions, probably because it was inappropriately worded for respondents who had ever been paid for sex but had never deliberately worked as sex workers).

Previous survey experience

Before coming to prison, more than half the respondents (57.1% men, 54.3% women) lived in a household without a landline telephone and would thus have been ineligible for surveys such as the NSW Population Health Survey (NSW Department of Health, 2007) or the Australian Study of Health

and Relationships (Smith et al., 2003). Only one in five respondents (19.9% men, 23.6% women) had ever done a telephone survey before. These findings underline the need for separate surveys of prisoner populations.

Reactions to this survey

The final questions in the telephone interview asked respondents about their reactions to the questionnaire (Tables 1.2 and 1.3 on p. 10), indicating little embarrassment or dishonesty in the process.

Debrief by on-site recruiters

As part of the debriefing process by the recruiter after the telephone interview, respondents (1135 men and 201 women) were asked how they found the interview. Data were collected with a short semi-structured questionnaire. Prisoners who had trouble reading were assisted or interviewed face-to-face by the recruiters. Most respondents (1072 (94.4%) men, 186 (92.5%) women) said they would be prepared to do another telephone survey in prison. They were also asked whether they thought it better to have male or female interviewers for these surveys. Only a few men (18, 1.6%) and no women preferred male interviewers. Men preferred female interviewers (544, 47.9%) or either (570, 50.2%). More women preferred female interviewers (126, 62.7%), though over a third (74, 36.8%) would have been happy with either. Only a minority would have preferred to do the survey with a face-to-face interviewer: 123 (11.5%) men and 13 (6.5%) women, though many did not mind: 436 (38.4%) men and 42 (20.9%) women. Other comments made by the interviewees are grouped thematically in Table 1.4.

Part of the purpose of the post-interview debriefing was to make sure that no one was distressed by the topics raised in the interview, and to provide referral for anyone who was. No men and only one woman was distressed by the topics brought up in the interview. Most of the referrals were for appointments with the public or sexual health nurse for STI screening. It appears the interview had made respondents aware of risks they had taken in the past and prompted them to seek health care.

Table 1.1 Number of prisoners surveyed by prison, NSW 2006–07

Prison	Number of inmates randomly selected ^a	Number ineligible ^b	Number unavailable ^c	Number refused	Number interviewed	Participation rate ^d %
<i>Men's prisons</i>						
Bathurst	69 (+65)	1	18	15	67	81.7
Brewarrina	6	0	0	0	6	100.0
Broken Hill	11 (+15)	1	6	8	8	50.0
Cessnock	59	0	0	0	65	100.0
Cooma	18	0	0	0	19	100.0
Glen Innes	17	0	0	0	18	100.0
Goulburn	75 (+100)	8	12	35	74	67.9
Grafton	36 (+39)	2	14	9	41	82.0
John Morony 1	31 (+12)	0	2	3	31	91.2
John Morony 2	38 (+30)	0	4	14	38	73.1
Junee	68 (+95)	3	14	16	108	87.1
Kirkconnell	31 (+12)	0	8	4	30	88.2
Lithgow	45 (+67)	21	4	19	45	70.3
Long Bay Complex	116 (+95)	4	37	40	112	73.7
Mannus	21 (+18)	0	5	3	24	88.9
Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre	232	6	0	14	124	89.9
Mid-North Coast	57 (+55)	6	22	14	59	80.8
Oberon	17	0	0	0	17	100.0
Parklea	107 (+96)	4	49	21	108	83.7
Parramatta	47 (+86)	1	13	8	47	85.5
Silverwater	70 (+60)	0	39	9	74	89.2
St Heliers	35 (+28)	2	10	12	33	73.3
Tamworth	12	0	0	0	14	100.0
Subtotal	1218 (+1002)	59	257	244	1162	82.6
<i>Women's prisons</i>						
Berrima	29 (+28)	5	10	7	62	89.9
Dillwynia	69 (+40)	9	16	12	69	85.2
Emu Plains	68 (+24)	14	5	10	29	74.4
Mulawa ^e	67 (+60)	35	24	8	41	83.7
Subtotal	233 (+181)	63	55	37	201	84.5
Total	1451 (+1154)	122	312	281	1363	82.9

(a) Number randomly selected from prison list to achieve target sample size for that prison (+ number on supplementary list). If selected prisoners were ineligible or unavailable or refused, respondents were recruited from the supplementary list in order until the target sample size was achieved.

(b) Ineligible due to insufficient English, mental illness, acute crisis, intellectual disability, medical reasons or previous selection at another prison. A few prisoners were not recruited because they had been released or had died in the few days between sample selection and recruitment.

(c) Unavailable due to court appearance, no access, or work.

(d) Participation rate = response rate among eligible and available prisoners, i.e. interviewed ÷ (interviewed + refused) x 100.

(e) Now called Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre.

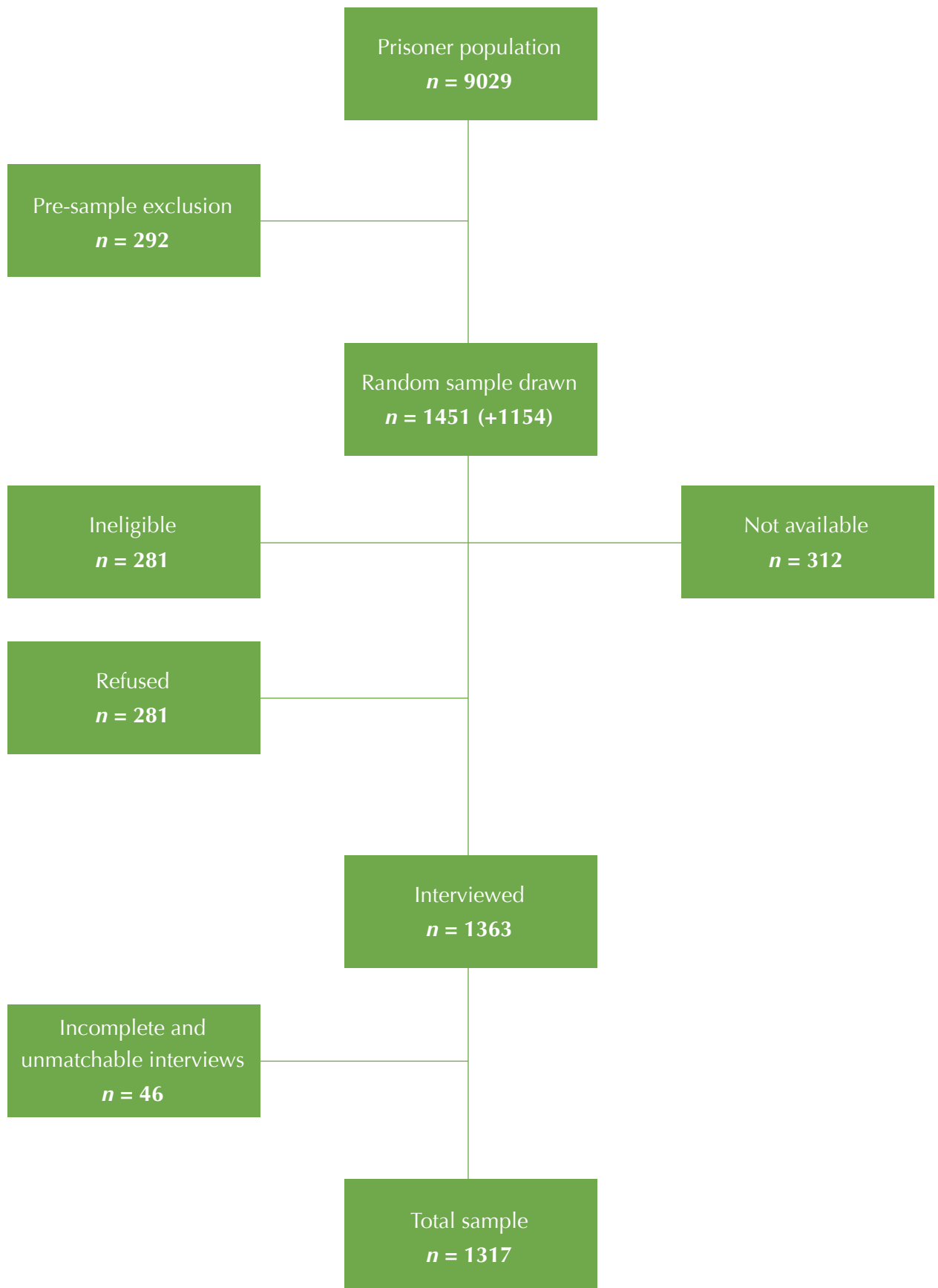


Figure 1.1 Flow chart of respondent selection for telephone survey

Table 1.2 Respondents' perceptions of whether the interview was embarrassing

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Extremely embarrassing	12	1.1	2	1.0
Very embarrassing	16	1.4	1	0.5
Quite embarrassing	27	2.4	10	5.0
Slightly embarrassing	249	22.3	59	29.6
Not at all embarrassing	812	72.8	127	63.8
Total	1116	100.0	199	100.0

Table 1.3 Respondents' self-rating of their proportion of honest answers

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
All	930	83.2	178	89.4
Most	175	15.7	20	10.1
About half	8	0.7	0	0.0
A few	3	0.3	1	0.5
None	2	0.2	0	0.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

Table 1.4 Comments made by prisoners during exit interview with recruiter (1135 men, 201 women)

Themes identified	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Hope it is helpful, want results used	53	4.7	11	5.5
Too long or repetitive	30	2.6	9	4.5
Concerns and suggestions	28	2.5	11	5.5
Educational/informative	26	2.3	8	4.0
Thought-provoking	23	2.0	2	1.0
Too long + positive remark	21	1.9	3	1.5
Entertaining/fun	19	1.7	1	0.5
Generally negative (most common comment: 'weird')	19	1.7	3	1.5
Embarrassing/personal	17	1.5	9	4.5
Confronting/full-on	15	1.3	3	1.5
Generally positive	14	1.2	100	49.8
Different	12	1.1	0	0.0
Did not understand point of survey	9	0.8	0	0.0
Don't know	4	0.4	0	0.0
Neutral	0	0.0	24	11.9

Demographic characteristics

Age

Prisoners were aged between 19 and 76 for men and 20 and 70 for women. The median age was 33 for both men and women. This is very similar to the general prisoner population: the median age of inmates in NSW prisons on 30 June 2007 was 33 years (Corben, 2008). However, it is considerably skewed towards younger ages when compared with the general population aged over 18.

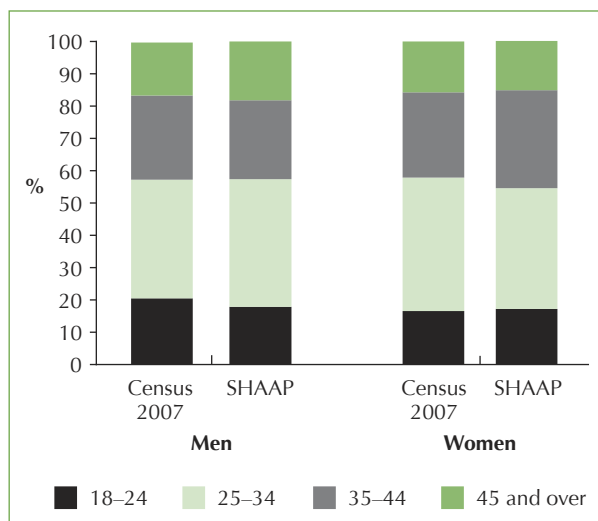


Figure 1.2 Age distribution of survey respondents compared with prison census

Country of birth and language spoken at home

The majority of inmates (78.8% of men and 85.4% of women) were Australian born (Table 1.5). Because those who did not speak English were under-represented in our survey, in Table 1.5 we also show the percentage of inmates born in each region in the 2007 NSW Inmate Census (Corben, 2008), ignoring those for whom DCS did not have data because their stay in prison was very brief. Such prisoners would not have been available for surveys like ours.

Table 1.5 Region of birth

	Sexual Health Survey				DCS Inmate Census 2007			
	Men		Women		Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Australia	881	78.8	170	85.4	845	79.3	150	84.7
Oceania	64	5.7	8	4.0	61	5.7	8	4.5
Asia	64	5.7	10	5.0	59	5.5	10	5.6
Europe	48	4.3	7	3.5	42	3.9	5	2.8
Middle East	36	3.2	0	0.0	33	3.1	1	0.6
Americas	16	1.4	3	1.5	15	1.4	1	0.6
Africa	9	0.8	1	0.5	10	0.9	2	1.1
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0	1065	100.0	177	100.0

Most participants (85.8%) spoke English at home (Table 1.6); 0.3% of men and no women spoke an Aboriginal language. The most common languages other than English were Arabic (3.0%) and Vietnamese (2.1%) for men and Dutch (1.0%) for women.

Table 1.6 Language spoken at home^a

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
English	945	84.5	185	93.0
Asian	68	6.1	4	2.0
European	40	3.6	7	3.5
Middle Eastern	38	3.4	1	0.5
Pacific	14	1.3	1	0.5
Other	10	0.7	1	0.5
Australian Aboriginal	3	0.3	0	0.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

(a) Eight men who spoke English and another language have been listed under the other language.

Living arrangements

Table 1.7 Accommodation immediately before coming to prison

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Renting	560	50.1	101	50.8
Own or buying	165	14.8	23	11.6
Living with parents	208	18.6	35	17.6
Unsettled lodgings ^a	84	7.5	15	7.5
Sleeping rough ^b	16	1.4	6	3.0
Other	85	7.6	19	9.5
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

(a) For example squat, bed and breakfast, hostel, caravan, staying temporarily with friends.

(b) For example no fixed abode, on the streets, in a car.

Homelessness: Life before prison

'I'd probably have to go and lie in the park for the night, you know. And I'd meet someone and they'd ask me my name and have a bit of a talk, and then they'll ask me have I got anywhere to go [for the night], and I'll say no. They'll offer me back to their place. You know what I mean? And I'd go back and then you know, probably wait till they'd all go to sleep and then I'd do them over, you know. Like rob 'em. And it was just petty little stuff, you know. But people like that, you know, they could be your friend for life, help you when you are down and out, you know. And I took a lot, a lot of it for granted.' (Male prisoner, age 22)

Indigenous status

Approximately a fifth of respondents (18.3% of men, 24.6% of women) identified themselves as of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background. The 2007 Inmate Census recorded 20.1% of male inmates and 30.2% of female inmates as indigenous. The Census records an inmate as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander if 'they have identified as such in any current or previous episode' of incarceration (Corben, 2008).

Marital status

About one in 10 people reported that they were legally married (Table 1.8). These figures are different from those held by DCS, which included prisoners with de facto opposite-sex partners in the married category (32.9% men, 37.7% women).

Table 1.8 Legal marital status

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Single	823	73.6	135	67.8
Married	107	9.6	24	12.1
Separated but not divorced	62	5.5	7	3.5
Divorced	116	10.4	30	15.1
Widowed	9	0.8	3	1.5
Don't know	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

Education

Schooling levels (Table 1.9) were lower than the general community. In the NSW general population 39.3% of men and 41.8% of women had completed only Year 10 schooling or less (NSW Department of Health, 2007). By comparison, 58.7% of men and 71.8% of women in the prison sample had Year 10 schooling or less.

Table 1.9 Educational attainment

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
No formal schooling	4	0.4	2	1.0
Primary school only	97	8.7	12	6.0
School Certificate/Year 10	554	49.6	129	64.8
Technical or trade certificate	79	7.1	4	2.0
HSC/Year 12	133	11.9	21	10.6
College certificate or diploma	36	3.2	10	5.0
University degree	41	3.7	8	4.0
Postgraduate university degree	16	1.4	2	1.0
Other	157	14.0	11	5.5
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1117	100.0	199	100.0

Employment and occupation

Nearly a third of the men and a quarter of the women were unemployed before coming to prison (Table 1.10).

Table 1.10 Employment

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Employed full-time (incl. self-employed)	427	38.2	41	20.6
Employed part-time (incl. self-employed)	207	18.5	28	14.1
Home duties	18	1.6	54	27.1
Unemployed	350	31.3	48	24.1
Student	30	2.7	8	4.0
Permanently ill or unable to work	65	5.8	20	10.1
Retired	19	1.7	0	0.0
Other	1	0.1	0	0.0
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1117	100.0	199	100.0

Occupations reported by respondents were allocated by interviewers into ASCO categories (Table 1.11). Although Taverner interviewers are skilled and experienced at doing this, the data are subject to the limitations of the occupational information given by respondents.

Table 1.11 Occupational status

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Manager or administrator	73	6.9	9	5.3
Professional	34	3.2	10	5.9
Associate professional	48	4.5	1	0.6
Tradesperson	196	18.4	9	5.3
Advanced clerical and service	11	1.0	9	5.3
Intermediate clerical, sales and service ^a	63	5.9	57	33.7
Intermediate production and transport	84	7.9	4	2.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service	40	3.8	13	7.7
Labourer	487	45.8	39	23.1
Other ^b	24	2.1	18	10.7
Refused	3	0.3	0	0.0
Total	1063	100.0	169	100.0

(a) Although (classically trained) ballet dancers are categorised by ABS as professionals, we categorised pole dancers/erotic dancers and strippers in this group.

(b) Including those who reported their occupation as sex worker, one man and 10 women.

Religion

The proportion of female (but not male) inmates who reported having no religion (27.6%) was much lower than in the general community (49.9% in the Australian Longitudinal Study of Health and Relationships Wave 1, age-matched to our Sexual Health Survey data; unpublished data, Jason Ferris, personal communication). Table 1.12 shows the distribution of religious adherence.

However, only 27.4% men and 23.0% of women of these religious adherents attended services or meetings regularly before prison (Table 1.13).

Most serious offence

An inmate may be imprisoned for a number of different offences. However, only the most serious offence is recorded for each of our respondents.

Table 1.12 Religion or faith

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
No religion	490	43.8	55	27.6
Anglican/Church of England	115	10.3	32	16.1
Catholic	223	19.9	62	31.2
Protestant	39	3.5	4	2.0
Non-denominational and other Christian	115	10.3	34	17.1
Buddhist	39	3.5	5	2.5
Muslim	63	5.6	5	2.5
Aboriginal/Indigenous faith	12	1.1	1	0.5
Other non-Christian	21	1.9	1	0.5
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

Table 1.13 Frequency of attendance at religious services or meetings before prison among those with a religion (627 men, 144 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Never	162	25.8%	40	27.8%
Only on special occasions ^a	245	39.1%	55	38.2%
Less than monthly ^b	47	7.5%	16	11.1%
Monthly	63	10.0%	9	6.3%
Weekly	103	16.4%	23	16.0%
Daily	6	1.0%	1	0.7%
Refused	1	0.2%	0	0.0
Total	627	100.0	144	100.0

(a) Weddings, funerals, christenings etc.

(b) Includes attendance only at festivals such as Christmas and Easter.

This is the offence for which the longest sentence was imposed, regardless of the outcome of any possible appeals. Assault was the commonest 'most serious offence' for both men and women (259 (23.9%) men and 36 (18.1%) women) (see Figure 1.3). As expected, because of the exclusion of some high-security prisoners from our sample, men convicted of homicide (9.5% in the 2007 NSW Inmate Census, Corben 2008) were somewhat under-represented in our sample. Men and women convicted of assault were somewhat over-represented (18.3% men and 16.1% women in the Census). The proportion of men convicted of sexual offences was similar (8.9% in the Census).

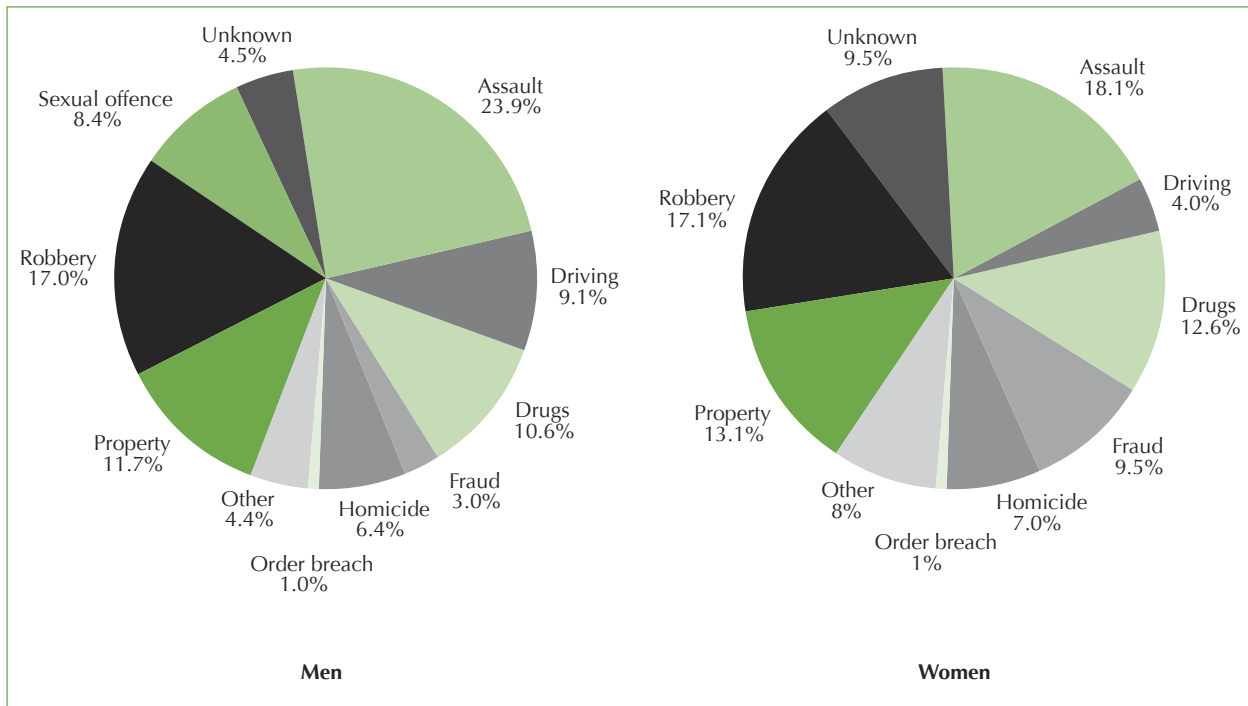


Figure 1.3 Most serious offence



RESULTS PART 2: PRISONERS' LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

Sexuality

Sexual identity

Asked 'Do you think of yourself as ... 1. heterosexual or straight, 2. homosexual (gay/lesbian), 3. bisexual', interviewees responded as shown in Table 2.1. Alternative responses were recorded.

Table 2.1 Reported sexual identity

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Heterosexual or straight	1066	95.3	126	63.3
Bisexual	32	2.9	57	28.6
Homosexual	15	1.3	14	7.0
Other ^a	5	0.5	2	1.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

(a) Asexual, variable sexual identity, not sure or undecided.

Transgender identity

Three respondents (0.3%) in male prisons and two in female prisons (1.0%) reported that they were (male to female) transgender.

Sexual attraction

Respondents reporting (for example) sexual attraction 'more often with males, and at least once with a female' are shown as having been attracted 'mostly' to males (Table 2.2).

Table 2.2 Reported sexual attraction to males and females

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Only to opposite sex	1022	91.4	88	44.2
Mostly to opposite sex	54	4.8	58	29.1
Equally to both sexes	19	1.7	28	14.1
Mostly to same sex	8	0.7	12	6.0
Only to same sex	7	0.6	12	6.0
No one	8	0.7	1	0.5
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

Sexual experience with males and females

This question asked about 'any kind of contact with another person that you felt was sexual. It could be kissing, touching, or any other form of sex, including intercourse' (Table 2.3).

Table 2.3 Reported sexual experience with males and females

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Only with opposite sex	989	88.5	81	40.7
Mostly with opposite sex	93	8.3	77	38.7
Equally with both sexes	13	1.2	20	10.1
Mostly with same sex	14	1.3	17	8.5
Only with same sex	2	0.2	4	2.0
No one	7	0.6	0	0.0
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

The seven male respondents who reported no previous sexual experience ranged in age from 20 to 69.

It is clear from Tables 2.1 to 2.3 that (as in other surveys) the sexual identity, sexual attraction and sexual experience questions do not measure exactly the same thing, although there is considerable overlap. Responses for men were roughly similar to the general community (e.g. the Australian Longitudinal Study of Health and Relationships (ALSHR) survey done in the same year), though male prisoners were somewhat more likely to report bisexual identity and/or sexual attraction to or experience with both men and women than were men in the general community (unpublished analysis from ALSHR by Jason Ferris). However, the responses from women were strikingly different from the general community, with very high frequencies of lesbian and bisexual identity and same-sex attraction and experience. A sub-analysis (details available from first author) showed that almost all inmates who said they thought of themselves as bisexuals reported some same-sex attraction as well as same-sex contact. In other words, they were not reporting bisexual identity solely on the concrete basis that they had ever had same-sex contact.

First sexual experiences

Age at first intercourse

Eleven men (1.0%) and five women (2.5%), one of whom was transgender, had never had vaginal intercourse. The median age at first experience of vaginal intercourse was 15 years for both men and women, ranging from five to 40 years in men and four to 38 years in women. Table 2.4 shows the age difference between partners for first heterosexual intercourse. The high proportion whose first intercourse was with someone five or more years older (16.3% of men and 27.8% of women) reflects the sexual vulnerability of these groups when young. These proportions are higher than the general Australian population, among whom only 6.7% of men and 14.0% of women had their first sexual experience of vaginal intercourse with someone five or more years older (Rissel et al., 2003a).

Table 2.4 Partner's age relative to respondent's age at first vaginal intercourse (where both ages known; 1076 men and 187 women)

Partner's age	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
5 or more years younger than respondent	6	0.6	1	0.5
2–4 years younger	27	2.5	1	0.5
Same age as respondent (± 1 year)	578	53.7	60	32.0
2–4 years older	290	27.0	73	39.0
5–9 years older	120	11.2	32	17.1
10 or more years older than respondent	55	5.1	20	10.7
Total	1076	100.0	187	100.0

Relationship to first partner

Respondents were asked who the partner was (Table 2.5) and how long they had known the partner before they had sex with her/him for the first time (counting from when they first met in person) (Table 2.6).

Contraception or other precautions used

Use of protection against pregnancy or sexual infections at first intercourse was low compared with the general population: 36.7% of men and 51.7% of women in prison reported using protection such as a condom on this first occasion (Table 2.7). In the general Australian population

Table 2.5 Relationship to first intercourse partner (1076 men and 187 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Spouse (married)	3	0.3	4	2.1
Fiancée/fiancé	7	0.7	3	1.5
Living together	2	0.2	1	0.5
Steady partner (incl. girlfriend/boyfriend)	310	28.8	92	47.4
Casual partner (incl. friend, workmate)	741	66.9	71	36.6
Sex worker	33	2.1	0	0.0
Other	5	0.5	23	11.9
Don't remember	5	0.5	0	0.0
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1076	100	194	100

Table 2.6 How long respondent had known first intercourse partner (1076 men and 187 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 24 hours	142	13.2	7	3.7
More than a day but less than a week	58	5.4	9	4.8
More than a week, less than a month	99	9.2	7	3.7
More than a month, less than a year	316	29.4	59	31.6
A year or more	461	42.8	104	55.6
Refused	0	0.0	1	0.5
Total	1076	100.0	187	100.0

Table 2.7 Precautions used at first intercourse

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Condom	371	33.9	84	45.2
Other contraception (e.g. the pill)	31	2.8	12	6.5
Withdrawal	10	0.9	2	1.1
Unknown	6	0.5	3	1.6
Other	5	0.5	0	0
No precautions	671	61.3	85	45.7
Total	1094	100	186	100

59.8% of men and 70.3% of women reported using a condom or other form of protection during their first intercourse experience (Rissel et al., 2003a). However, some prison respondents would have been too young at the time to need contraception.

Age at first oral sex

A small proportion of respondents (6.2% of men and 11.1% of women) had never had oral sex (fellatio or cunnilingus) with a partner of the opposite sex. Median age at first oral sex was 16 years for both men and women, indicating that on average, respondents had vaginal intercourse before they had oral sex. Ages at first oral sex ranged from five to 45 years for men and six to 35 years for women.

Anal sex

Respondents were asked whether they had ever had anal intercourse with an opposite-sex partner. Respondents who said they had not had anal intercourse were not asked again later whether they had had anal intercourse in specific contexts, or whether they had used a condom. Male respondents who had had any sexual contact with a male were asked later whether they had had anal intercourse with a male. Respondents who had experienced anal intercourse were asked to include partners with whom they had had anal intercourse (and/or vaginal intercourse, where appropriate) in their total numbers of intercourse partners in the succeeding questions. A large minority of respondents (510 (45.6%) men, 72 (36.2%) women) had experienced anal intercourse.

Condom use

Most respondents (970 (86.8%) men, 171 (86.0%) women) had used a condom at some time in the past for sex with an opposite-sex partner, and a large minority (395 (35.3%) men, 80 (40.2%) women) had ever used a condom for fellatio. Respondents who had never used a condom were not asked about condom use in specific contexts later in the interview.

Number of partners

Respondents were asked separately with how many opposite-sex people they had ever had (a) intercourse, (b) oral sex (but not intercourse) and (c) manual sex only, i.e. 'touching or rubbing the penis or vaginal area'. Having non-intercourse partners was common: 460 (41.1%) men and 49 (24.6%) women had had at least some partners with whom they had oral sex but not intercourse, and 563 (50.3%) men and 63 (31.7%) women had had partners with whom they had manual

sex but not intercourse or oral sex. Numbers of partners for all forms of sex are presented in Table 2.8. If only intercourse partners are considered, the median for men was 10 and for women six.

Table 2.8 Number of lifetime opposite-sex partners for intercourse, oral sex or manual sex (1118 men, 199 women)

Number of partners	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
None	10	0.9	4	2.0
1	20	1.8	10	5.0
2	21	1.9	11	5.5
3–10	230	20.6	93	46.7
11–50	462	41.3	39	19.6
51+	149	13.3	20	10.1
Don't know/ can't remember	225	20.1	22	11.1
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Median	19.5		7	
Range	0–4000		0–5006	

As in most other sex surveys, men reported more opposite-sex partners than women did; it is likely that men over-report the number of sexual partners. Average lifetime partner numbers reported by the prisoners are significantly higher than in the general population (de Visser et al., 2003b). In this very skewed distribution, the mean is not a useful measure and has not been calculated.

These figures include sex work partners if the respondent clarified the point with the interviewer, but it is possible that some people who had done sex work did not include clients as people with whom they had had sex. Fifty-three women had ever been paid for sex (see Table 2.25 on p. 22).

Same-sex contacts

Only about one man in 10 (122; 10.9%) reported any same-sex experience, but this was much more common among women (118; 59.3%). The median age at first same-sex experience was 19 years for men and 20 years for women, ranging from four to 38 years for men and from 11 to 41 for women. Some respondents volunteered that their same-sex experience was only children's sex play (two men, no women) or only kissing (three men, three women). Table 2.9 shows the time that the respondent had known their first same-sex partner before they had sex. As for opposite-sex partners (Table 2.5), this reflects the greater frequency

among men of first sexual encounters with casual partners or someone they had just met.

Table 2.9 Time known first same-sex partner before sexual experience

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 24 hours	21	17.9	9	7.8
More than a day but less than a week	10	8.5	4	3.5
More than a week, less than a month	11	9.4	5	4.3
More than a month, less than a year	28	23.9	32	27.8
A year or more	45	38.5	64	55.7
Refused	2	1.7	1	0.9
Total	117	100	115	100

Number of partners

Respondents were asked separately with how many same-sex people they had ever had (a) anal intercourse (men only), (b) oral sex (but not anal intercourse) and (c) manual sex only, i.e. ‘touching or rubbing the penis or vaginal area’. Twenty-nine men (23.6% of those who had any same-sex partners) had had at least some partners with whom they had oral sex but not anal intercourse, and 31 (25.2%) men and 28 (23.5%) women had had partners with whom they had manual sex but not oral sex. Numbers of partners for all forms of sex are presented in Table 2.10. In this very skewed distribution, the mean is not a useful measure and has not been calculated.

Table 2.10 Number of lifetime same-sex partners for anal intercourse (men only), oral sex or manual sex (1118 men, 199 women)

Number of partners	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
0	992	88.7	81	40.7
1	39	3.5	30	15.1
2	14	1.3	15	7.5
3–10	25	2.2	42	21.1
11–50	9	0.8	9	4.5
51+	6	0.5	2	1.0
Don't know/can't remember	32	2.9	20	10.1
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0
Median	0		1	
Range	0–1500		0–404	

Sexual experiences in the 12 months before coming to prison

Table 2.11 Number of opposite-sex sexual partners for intercourse, oral sex or manual sex in the 12 months before coming to prison (1112 men, 191 women)

Number of partners	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
None	75	6.7	41	20.6
1	467	41.8	88	44.2
2	139	12.4	31	15.6
3–10	307	27.5	18	9.0
11–50	99	8.9	4	2.0
More than 50	20	1.8	7	3.5
Can't remember	9	0.8	9	4.5
Refused	2	0.2	1	0.5
Median	2		1	
Range	0–250		0–3000	

Some respondents (109 (9.7%) men, 14 (7.0%) women) had partners with whom they had had oral sex but not intercourse, and some (149 (13.3%) men, 19 (9.5%) women) had partners with whom they had had manual sex only. The median number of intercourse partners for both men and women was one.

Of those who had had sex (1028 men and 149 women), 448 people (397 (38.6%) men, 51 (34.2%) women) had used a condom for sex on at least one occasion in the 12 months before coming to prison.

Masturbation

A majority of the men (709, 63.4%) and a third of the women (71, 35.7%) had masturbated alone in the 12 months before prison. Most men masturbated less than once a week or one to three times; few masturbated four or more times. As in other surveys, women masturbated less often, commonly less than once a week. We also asked whether in their lifetime outside prison they had ever masturbated when someone else was in the same room (i.e. someone they were not having sex with); 155 (13.9%) men and 45 (22.6%) women had ever done this.

Other autoerotic and less common sexual practices

From the role play question onwards (see Table 2.12), interviewers were instructed to discontinue questioning and skip to the next section if the

respondent did not understand the questions or displayed discomfort (e.g. by saying 'I'm not into any of that sort of stuff'). The term 'fisting' was not explained, but if the respondent asked, s/he was advised that both vaginal and anal fisting were included. Twenty-eight men and five women either did not understand a question or were uncomfortable during questioning and skipped the remaining questions.

Although viewing X-rated films was much more common among the prisoners than in the general community (37% men, 16% women in ASHR; Richters et al., 2003a), the proportion of men who had visited sex sites on the internet was no higher (17% in ASHR), probably reflecting low computer skills and low access to the internet in this population. Fourteen men (1.3%) and one woman had met a sexual partner through the internet.

Table 2.12 Other sexual activities in the 12 months before coming to prison (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
<i>Asked of everyone</i>				
Had phone sex	147	13.1	17	8.5
Called a phone sex line	40	3.6	5	2.5
Visited sex site on the internet	174	15.6	13	6.5
Watched an X-rated video or DVD	711	63.6	92	46.2
<i>Asked of all who had sex including masturbation</i>				
Used sex toy	235	21.0	68	34.2
<i>Asked of all who had sex with a partner</i>				
Role playing/dressing up	100	8.9	29	14.6
BDSM ^a	66	5.9	15	7.5
Group sex	158	14.1	13	6.5
Digital anal stimulation	301	26.9	37	18.6
Fisting (vaginal or anal)	34	3.0	2	1.0
Oral-anal contact (rimming)	148	13.2	18	9.0

(a) 'B&D or S&M, that's bondage and discipline, sadomasochism or dominance and submission.'

Regular relationships

Most respondents (895 (80.1%) men, 139 (69.8%) women) had a regular opposite-sex partner before they were sent to prison. A regular partner was defined as 'Someone you have an ongoing sexual relationship with'. The majority of those in a regular opposite-sex relationship lived with their partner: 677 men (60.6% of the total sample) and 91

women (45.7% of total). Concurrency was common compared with the general community: 217 men and 20 women (i.e. 19.4% of the total sample of men and 10.1% of the women) had more than one regular partner just before they came to prison. Subsequent questions of those with more than one regular opposite-sex partner were asked about the one they lived with or the one they most recently had sex with.

Table 2.13 shows the range of length of relationships. Female partners of the male prisoners were aged 13–69 years, median 28 years, and male partners of the female prisoners were aged 19–74 years, median 33 years.

Table 2.13 Length of relationship with regular partner before respondent came to prison

Length of relationship	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Up to one year	263	29.4	42	30.2
More than one year but less than two years	124	13.9	11	7.9
More than two years but less than five years	243	27.2	35	25.2
More than five but less than 10 years	138	15.4	22	15.8
More than 10 but less than 20 years	93	10.4	23	16.5
More than 20 years	34	3.8	6	4.3
Total	895	100.0	139	100.0

Compared with the general community, inmates' expectations of sexual exclusivity were low (Rissel et al., 2003c) (Table 2.14).

Table 2.14 Expectations of sexual exclusivity with regular partner before respondent came to prison (895 men, 139 women with a regular partner)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
I expected partner to have sex only with me	677	75.6	110	79.1
I expected to have sex only with partner	649	72.5	121	87.1
Discussed this with partner ^a	439	49.1	82	59.0
Both clearly agreed after discussing it	394	44.0	72	51.8

(a) Clarification: 'Did you talk about whether it was OK for either of you to have sex with other people?'

Same-sex relationships

Seventeen (1.5%) men and 26 (13.1%) women were in a regular relationship with a same-sex partner before coming to prison.

Last sexual contact before prison

Respondents were asked about their last sexual encounter immediately before coming to prison (Table 2.15). Note that this event may have been atypical for the respondent because it occurred in a situation affected by the respondent's imminent incarceration, and for 10% of men and four women this event was five or more years ago.

Table 2.15 Relationship to the opposite-sex partner with whom respondent had his or her last sexual experience before prison (1048 men, 149 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Live-in partner	538	51.3	95	63.8
Regular partner, but not living together	198	18.9	29	19.5
Occasional partner	69	6.6	8	5.4
Casual partner or one-night-stand	220	21.0	11	7.4
Other	22	2.1	6	4.0
Don't remember	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1048	100.0	149	100.0

Table 2.16 Sexual practices at last sexual encounter with opposite-sex partner (1048 men, 149 women)

Sexual practice	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Vaginal intercourse	1020	97.3	146	98.0
used condom	216		26	
Anal intercourse	73	7.0	4	2.7
used condom	16		1	
Fellatio	579	55.2	78	52.3
Cunnilingus	553	52.8	91	61.1
Manual sex (hand on penis)	912	87.0	127	85.2
Manual sex (hand on vaginal area)	931	88.8	129	86.6
Had orgasm	956	91.2	110	73.8

Forty-one (3.7%) men and 45 (22.6%) women reported a last sexual encounter before prison with a same-sex partner, and 28 (2.5%) men and 26 (13.1%) women reported encounters with both men and women.

Contraception and fertility

All female respondents who had ever had vaginal intercourse were asked a series of questions on contraception and pregnancy. Men in regular relationships with women were also asked about the contraceptive methods used in that relationship.

Contraception

Among respondents who were in a regular sexual relationship with an opposite-sex partner before coming to prison, only a minority (370 (41.3%) of men and 39 (28.3%) women) reported that they had been using contraception. The primary methods used are displayed in Table 2.17. Although respondents were given the option of reporting use of more than one method, no one did so.

Table 2.17 Contraceptive methods used in regular relationship (895 men, 139 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Did not use contraception	518	57.9	98	70.5
Condom	191	21.3	20	14.4
Oral contraceptive	124	13.9	10	7.2
Progestogen injection or implant	24	2.7	8	5.8
Intrauterine device	9	1	0	0.0
Vasectomy or tubal ligation	8	0.9	0	0.0
Withdrawal	3	0.3	0	0.0
Safe period methods	0	0	0	0.0
Other	11	1.2	1	0.7
Don't know	6	0.7	1	0.7
Refused	1	0.1	1	0.7
Total	895	100	139	100

Female respondents who did not have a regular male partner before prison but had sexual contact with a man in the 12 months before prison were asked whether or not they had used contraception. Nine of the 25 women (36.0%) reported having used contraception.

Morning-after pill

Thirty-six women (18.5%) reported ever having used the morning-after pill.

Reproductive experiences (women)

Most of the women (159, 79.9%) had been pregnant; median age at first pregnancy was 18 years (range 13 to 40 years). The majority (133,

83.6%) of these women had had one or more children (see Table 2.20). Pregnancy outcomes are presented in Tables 2.18 and 2.19.

Table 2.18 Pregnancy outcomes experienced by 159 women who had been pregnant

	No.	% of women who had ever been pregnant ^a	% of all women in sample
Live birth(s)	133	83.6	66.8
One or more terminations	75	47.2	37.7
One or more miscarriages	78	49.1	39.2
One or more stillbirths	12	7.5	6.0
One or more children given up for adoption	9	5.7	4.5

(a) Adds to more than 100% because respondents could report more than one pregnancy outcome.

Table 2.19 Outcomes of 667 pregnancies experienced by 159 women

	No.	%
Live birth	371	55.6
Termination	149	22.3
Miscarriage	124	18.6
Stillbirth	13	1.9
Given up for adoption	10	1.5
Total	667	100.0

Table 2.20 Number of children born to 133 women who had one or more live births

Number of children	No.	% of women who had ever been pregnant	% of all women in sample
One	38	28.6	19.6
Two	35	26.3	17.6
Three	22	16.5	11.1
Four	15	11.3	7.5
Five or more	23	17.3	11.6
Total	133	100.0	66.8

It is possible that some women, when they were asked 'have you ever been pregnant?', would not have counted pregnancies that ended in early miscarriage or were terminated, so these figures may be underestimates of the true proportion of pregnancies and some outcomes.

Infertility

About a quarter of the women (52, 26.9%) said they had had difficulties getting pregnant, and five (9.6%) of them had been treated to help them get pregnant.

Sexual forcing or coercion

Sexual forcing or coercion was measured with the following question asked of both men and women 'Have you ever been forced or frightened by a male or a female into doing something sexually that you did not want to do?' (see discussion in Methods section). A total of 153 (13.7%) men and 118 (59.3%) women said this had happened to them. This is much higher than in the general community (4.8% men and 21.1% women) (De Visser et al., 2003a). The age at which it happened (or first happened to people who had been repeatedly forced) ranged from three to 50 years for men and one to 40 years for women. Table 2.21 shows the gender of the perpetrator and Table 2.22 shows how many times this happened. The majority of respondents (306 (76.9%) men, 80 (57.1%) women) did not tell anyone or seek help following the incident(s). For those respondents who did talk to someone, Table 2.23 shows who they spoke to.

Table 2.21 Gender of person(s) who had forced unwanted sexual activity on respondent (153 men, 118 women)

Gender of perpetrator	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Male	70	45.8	113	95.8
Female	66	43.1	2	1.7
Both	16	10.5	3	2.5
Refused	1	0.7	0	0.0
Total	153	100.0	118	100.0

Table 2.22 Number of times respondents had experienced forced unwanted sexual activity (153 men, 118 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Once	48	31.4	22	18.6
Twice	29	19.0	26	22.0
3–9 times	39	25.5	38	32.2
10 or more	20	13.1	15	12.7
Can't remember/ Don't know/Refused	17	11.1	17	14.4
Total	153	100.0	118	100.0

Table 2.23 Who victims of sexual coercion spoke to (83 men, 60 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Friend	28	33.7	7	11.7
Counsellor, psychologist, etc	14	16.9	13	21.7
Parent	12	14.5	13	21.7
Police	6	7.2	10	16.7
Brother or sister (sibling)	4	4.8	3	5.0
Other relative	3	3.6	6	10.0
Spouse/partner	5	6.0	2	3.3
Chaplain or other religious person	2	2.4	0	0.0
Justice Health nurse/doctor (including public/sexual health nurse)	1	1.2	2	3.3
Other	7	8.4	4	6.7
Don't know/Don't remember	1	1.2	0	0.0
Total	83	100.0	60	100.0

Sexual difficulties

Prisoners had high rates of sexual difficulties (Table 2.24). Among both men and women lack of pleasure in sex, reaching orgasm too quickly and anxiety about performance were significantly more prevalent than among the general population despite the younger age of the inmate sample (Richters et al., 2003b). Among men, erection problems and lack of interest in sex were also apparent. Some of these difficulties may be related to depression (see *Psychological wellbeing* under **General health** below), or to use of illicit or prescribed drugs that affect sexual drive or performance.

Table 2.24 Sexual difficulties in the 12 months before coming to prison

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
<i>Asked of everyone who had had sex (including masturbation)</i>				
Lacked interest in having sex	436	39.2	113	56.8
Inability to reach orgasm	192	17.5	85	42.7
Came to orgasm too quickly	523	47.8	50	25.1
<i>Asked of everyone who had had intercourse</i>				
Physical pain during intercourse	68	6.5	47	23.6
<i>Asked of everyone who had had sex with a partner</i>				
Did not find sex pleasurable	215	19.6	73	36.7
Felt anxious about performance	313	28.2	64	32.2
Had trouble keeping an erection	301	26.9	–	–
Had trouble with vaginal dryness	–	–	44	22.1
Worried during sex whether body looked unattractive	195	17.4	110	55.3

Sex work

Having paid for sex was more than twice as common among male inmates than among men in the general population. For both men and women, having been paid for sex was many times more common than in the general population (Rissel et al., 2003d).

Table 2.25 Experience of ever paying for or ever being paid for sex (1111 men, 199 women who had ever had sex)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Has paid for sex	442	39.5	8	4.0
Has been paid for sex	85	7.6	53	26.6

Sexual health

Circumcision

About half (52.4%) of the men had been circumcised. This is consistent with the average young age of the sample and the age distribution of circumcision in the general population (Richters et al., 2006).

Sexually transmissible infections

No testing for infections was undertaken in this study. Table 2.26 shows the sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and genital conditions that respondents reported when asked about each one individually.

The proportions of men and women with a history of oral herpes and chlamydia were significantly higher than that reported in the 2001

Table 2.26 Sexually transmissible infections reported by respondents (ever had in lifetime) (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Oral herpes	290	25.9	72	36.2
Pubic lice	232	20.8	26	13.1
Genital or anal warts	78	7.0	21	10.6
Penile or vaginal candidiasis	74	6.6	113	56.8
Chlamydia	58	5.2	28	14.1
Non-specific urethritis	53	4.7	–	–
Gonorrhoea	41	3.7	12	6.0
Hepatitis A	33	3.0 ^a	6	3.0 ^a
Genital herpes	23	2.1	9	4.5
Syphilis	21	1.9	6	3.0
Human papillomavirus (HPV) on Pap smear	–	–	20	10.1
Pelvic inflammatory disease	–	–	11	5.5
Bacterial vaginosis	–	–	5	2.5
Trichomoniasis	–	–	3	1.5
Any other genital pain or problem	94	8.4	41	20.6

(a) Respondents were not asked whether they had had a blood test, only whether they had 'ever had' the condition.

Table 2.27 Ever had other blood-borne viruses (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	6	0.7 ^a	1	0.9
Hepatitis B ^b	59	5.3	15	7.5
Hepatitis C ^b	282	25.2	89	44.7

(a) This represents 0.7% of the 913 men who were actually tested for HIV.

(b) Respondents were not asked whether they had had a blood test, only whether they had 'ever had' the condition.

Table 2.28 Correct answers to STI knowledge questions (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No. correct	% correct	No. correct	% correct
Chlamydia affects only women (False)	559	50.0	83	41.7
Chlamydia can lead to infertility in women (True)	579	51.8	124	62.3
Once a person has caught genital herpes, they will always have the virus (True)	640	57.2	130	65.3
Cold sores and genital herpes can be caused by the same virus (True)	655	58.6	125	62.8
AIDS only affects gay men (False)	1031	92.2	188	94.5
You can tell who might have a sexually transmissible infection just by looking at them (False)	860	76.9	175	87.9

New South Wales Inmate Health Survey (Butler & Milner, 2003); chlamydia notifications in NSW had tripled in the meantime. Pubic lice and non-specific urethritis were also higher in men, whereas syphilis and gonorrhoea were lower. In women, human papillomavirus (HPV) on Pap smear, genital herpes, gonorrhoea and vaginal candidiasis were more commonly reported, while trichomoniasis appears to be less commonly reported than in the earlier survey.

In previous research involving testing of NSW inmates we found that confirmed untreated syphilis was uncommon (2% of men and 1% of women) in NSW prisons (Butler et al., 2001). By contrast, though fewer than 1% of NSW prisoners in 1996 reported a history of genital herpes, 21% of men and 58% of women were serologically positive for herpes simplex virus type 2 (Butler et al., 2000).

Knowledge about STIs

Knowledge about STIs (first four statements in Table 2.28) was comparable to the general population (Grulich et al., 2003b). Prisoners were almost all aware that AIDS did not affect only gay men and most knew that you could not tell by looking at someone whether they might have an STI.

Sexual attitudes

Prisoners' attitudes toward sexual matters were largely similar to those of the general population (Rissel et al., 2003b), with the exception that both men and women were more likely to disapprove of abortion, and the men were much less tolerant of male-to-male sexual activity (Table 2.29).

Table 2.29 Agreement ('agree' or 'strongly agree') with sexual attitude statements (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Films these days are too sexually explicit	393	35.2	83	41.7
Sex before marriage is acceptable	980	87.7	169	84.9
If two people had oral sex, but not intercourse, you would still consider that they had had sex together	851	76.1	157	78.9
An active sex life is important for your sense of wellbeing	938	83.9	134	67.3
Abortion is always wrong	527	47.1	53	26.6
Having an affair when in a committed relationship is always wrong	899	80.4	145	72.9
Sex tends to get better the longer you know someone	778	69.6	151	75.9
Sex between two adult women is always wrong	259	23.2	29	14.6
Sex between two adult men is always wrong	695	62.2	58	29.1

General health

Self-rated health

Most prisoners felt their health was good or very good (Table 2.30), though self-rated health was lower on average than in the general community. About one prisoner in 10 (122 (10.9%) men, 25 (12.6%) women) had a disability that hindered mobility.

Table 2.30 Respondents' opinion of their general health (1116 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Excellent	266	23.8	36	18.1
Very good	361	32.3	60	30.2
Good	309	27.6	63	31.7
Fair	133	11.9	26	13.1
Poor	47	4.2	14	7.0
Don't know	2	0.2	0	0.0
Total	1116	100.0	199	100.0

Health conditions

Eighty-five men (7.6%) and 14 women (7.0%) were currently taking medication for high blood pressure or a heart condition. Fifty-three men (4.7%) and 18 women (9.0%) had ever been diagnosed with diabetes or hyperglycaemia (high blood sugar).

Psychological wellbeing

Respondents were asked about their emotional state of mind using six items from the Kessler 10 scale (see Methods section) and an additional question about irritability. Results are displayed in Table 2.31. Among 1099 men and 192 women who answered

Table 2.31 Proportion of respondents who felt negative emotions most or all of the time

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Nervous	133	11.9	35	17.6
So sad that nothing could cheer you up	107	9.6	36	18.1
Restless or fidgety	223	19.9	55	27.6
Hopeless	122	10.9	36	18.1
That everything was an effort	156	14.0	36	18.1
Worthless	82	7.3	27	13.6
Irritable or bad-tempered	151	13.5	25	12.6

all six questions, 136 men (12.4%) and 44 women (22.9%) scored 13 or higher on the K6. A score of 13 or more is generally indicative of 'extreme distress' and has been used as a cut point in general population studies for estimating the proportion of serious mental illness (Kessler et al., 2003). See Butler and Milner (2003, pp. 94–99) for comparable figures from 2001.

A total of 392 men (35.1%) and 101 women (50.8%) had been told by a health professional that they had an emotional or mental health problem (e.g. depression, schizophrenia, psychosis, alcohol dependence) and 160 men (14.3%) and 43 women (21.6%) had been admitted to hospital or a psychiatric ward because of an emotional or mental health problem.

Smoking

Most of the prisoners were current tobacco smokers – 822 (73.5%) men and 169 (84.9%) women. Almost all of those who smoked tobacco did so

daily. The lightest smokers among the men smoked tobacco weekly and the heaviest smoked 100 cigarettes a day (median 17.3 cigarettes per day). The lightest smokers among the women smoked less often than weekly and the heaviest 60 a day (median 15.0).

Alcohol use

In the 12 months before coming to prison, most respondents drank alcohol (930 (83.2% men; 136 (68.3%) women). Frequency of drinking is shown in Table 2.32.

Those who drank had 1–50 drinks on each day that they drank alcohol. Weekly alcohol consumption is shown in Figure 2.1. Thus 316 (29.1%) men and 34 (17.7%) women who answered the question drank at NHMRC ‘hazardous’ or ‘risky’ levels, i.e. more than 28 drinks a week (≥ 280 g/week) for men or 14 drinks a week (≥ 140 g/week) for women (NHMRC, 2001).

Table 2.32 Frequency of drinking alcohol in the 12 months before coming to prison

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Every day	236	21.1	23	11.6
5–6 days a week	46	4.1	2	1.0
3–4 days a week	127	11.3	11	5.5
1–2 days a week	267	23.9	36	18.0
Fortnightly or less	74	6.6	12	6.0
Monthly or less	180	16.1	52	26.1
Did not drink alcohol	188	16.8	63	31.7
Total	1118	100.0	199	100.0

Use of other non-prescribed drugs

Most prisoners (909 (81.3%) men and 169 (84.9%) women) had ever taken non-prescribed drugs, and 498 (44.5%) men and 130 (65.3%) women had injected drugs. Use of certain drugs is shown in Table 2.33.

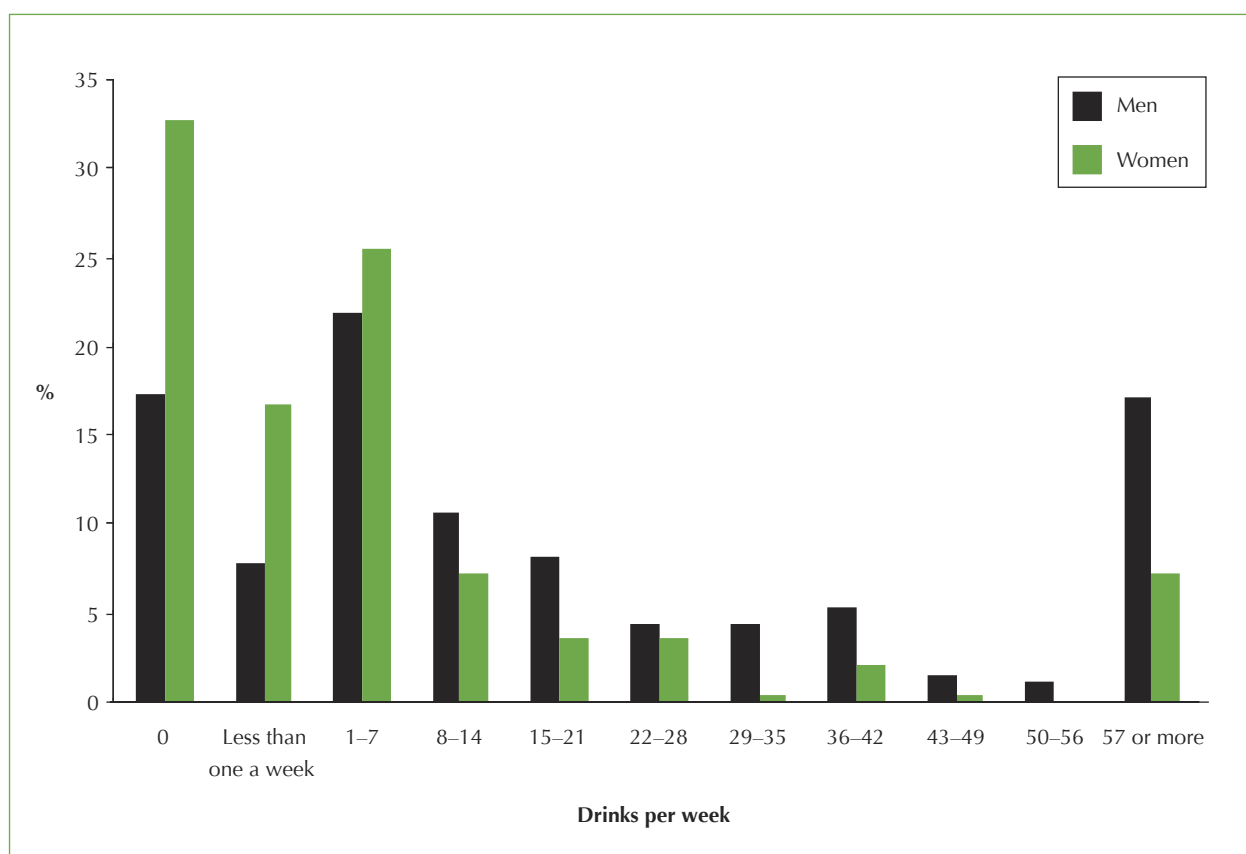


Figure 2.1 Alcohol consumption per week, in standard drinks (10 g of alcohol) (1087 men, 192 women)

Table 2.33 Lifetime use of non-prescribed drugs (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Cannabis	702	62.8	111	55.8
Heroin	326	29.2	90	45.2
Methadone	183	16.4	68	34.2
Other opiates	150	13.4	38	19.1
Amphetamines	577	51.6	102	51.3
Cocaine	411	36.8	64	32.2
LSD	126	11.3	9	4.5
Ecstasy	405	36.2	45	22.6
Benzodiazepines	174	15.6	63	31.7
Steroids	81	7.2	5	2.5
Other drugs	67	6.0	9	4.5
No drugs	208	18.6	30	15.1
Refused	1	0.1	0	0.0

About a third of the injectors reported ever using a needle for injection after someone else had used it: 139 men (27.9% of the injectors) and 51 women (39.2% of the injectors). This represents about 12% of the men and 26% of the women in the total prisoner sample.

Tattooing and piercing

More than half the prisoners (673 (60.2%) men, 113 (56.8%) women) had ever been tattooed; 284 men (25.4% of total sample) and 41 (20.6%) women while in prison. Many (446 (39.9%) men, 144 (72.4%) women) had body piercings including earrings, 51 (4.6% of the total sample) men and 37 (18.6%) women doing so while in prison. Men were also asked about subcutaneous penile insertions or marbling: 84 (7.5% of the total sample) men had done this, and most of them (65 men) had it done in prison.



RESULTS PART 3: EXPERIENCES IN PRISON

Number of times in prison

For 39.7% of male and 43.2% of female inmates this was their first time in an adult prison. The distribution of time spent in prison so far is shown in Figure 3.1. During their time in prison, 13.1% of men and 15.1% of women had had some type of day or weekend release or work or study release.

Three hundred and ninety men (34.9%) and 56 women (28.1%) had spent time in a juvenile detention facility. For these respondents the total time spent in a juvenile detention facility is shown in Table 3.1.

Radio

Jailbreak is a weekly radio program broadcasting to prisoners and the community in partnership with community radio station 2SER in Sydney. It is funded by NSW Health and the Department of Corrective Services. The program aims to provide support and health information for prisoners via peer-led health promotion messages as well as a diverse range of opinion, music and poetry from people in the criminal justice system. The delivery of engaging, relevant and clear health messages in relation to HIV, hepatitis and sexual health is part of

Table 3.1 Total time spent in juvenile detention (390 men, 56 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 6 months	120	30.8	26	46.4
6 months to less than a year	59	15.1	9	16.1
1 year to less than 2 years	52	13.3	4	7.1
2 years to less than 5 years	112	28.7	11	19.6
5 years to less than 10 years	40	10.3	5	8.9
More than 10 years	6	1.5	1	1.8
Can't remember or refused	1	0.3	0	0.0
Total	390	100.0	56	100.0

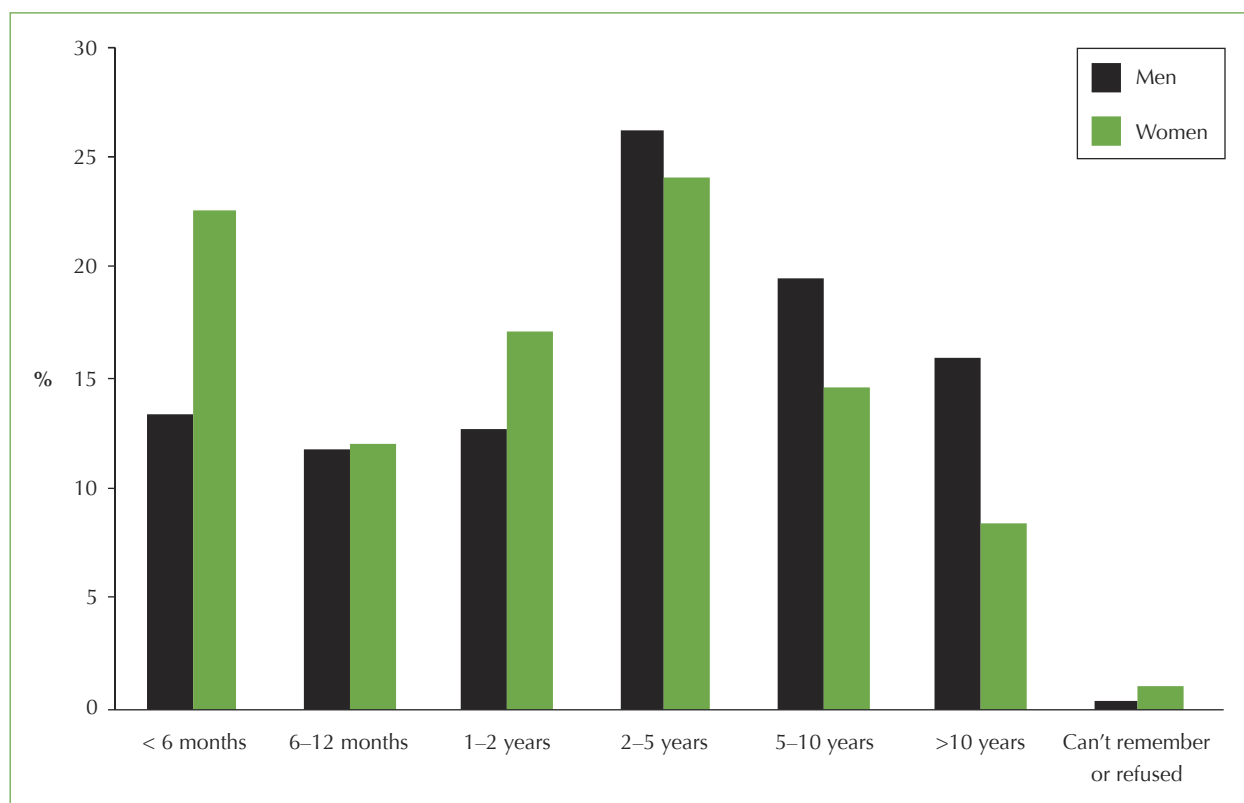


Figure 3.1 Total time spent in adult prisons (1118 men, 199 women)

Prison visits for a gay man

'I tell you what ... being a gay man is hard when your partner comes to visit you. That's really hard. [...] We're sitting down talking, you know, and he's there right in front of me. I can't even put my arm around him and pat him like all the other guys are doing with their girlfriends. And it's so frustrating. It's, 'Oh my God, I just want to jump you!' You know? And not only are you restricted to being right there, and not even with the jail wall in between you, but you're right there and everybody else in the yard is feeling up their partner, and you can't do it, to protect your reputation.' (Male prisoner, age 36)

their role. The messages are generated by prisoners and ex-prisoners mainly through their involvement in courses on Health Promotion for Radio.

Six of the 28 prisons surveyed had reliable access to 2SER; this theoretically covered 343 men (30.7%) and 109 women (54.8%) in the sample. Of those who had access to 2SER, 137 men (39.9%) and 45 women (41.3%) had ever listened to the program (12.3% of men and 22.6% of women in total).

Contact with people outside prison

About four-fifths of prisoners (906 (81.0%) men, 159 (79.9%) women) had visits from their partner, friends or family while they were in prison. The most common ways of keeping in touch with a partner were visits, letters and telephone; men were most likely to rely on face-to-face visits, whereas women were more likely than men to use letters. A small proportion of men (1.7%) reported no contact with their partner (Table 3.2).

Three hundred and fifty-six men (54.1% of those who had children) and 84 women (63.2%) had had contact with their children in the previous four weeks.

Table 3.2 How respondents kept in contact with regular partner (463 men and 102 women in regular relationships)^a

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Telephone	255	55.1	42	41.2
Visits	350	75.6	61	59.8
Letters	250	54.0	68	66.7
Other	4	0.9	6	5.9
No contact	7	1.5	0	0.0

(a) A majority of respondents reported more than one form of contact, so these numbers add to more than 100%.

Regular relationships

Men

Most respondents (895, 80.1%) had a regular female partner before coming to prison; 217 (19.4%) had more than one regular female partner. Seventeen men (1.5%) had a regular male partner, and two of them had more than one regular male partner. Two men had both a male and a female regular partner, leaving 208 men (18.6%) who had no regular partner before coming to prison. Table 3.3 shows those who considered themselves still to be in the primary relationship (usually the one they were living with, if they had more than one), and of those whose relationship had ended, whether coming to prison was the cause of the end of the relationship.

Table 3.3 Regular relationship status of men before prison and since coming to prison

	Female partners	Male partners	Total	
	No.	No.	No.	%
Not in a regular relationship before prison	–	–	208	18.6
Still in primary relationship	458	6	463	41.4
No longer in relationship due to coming to prison	292	7	299	26.7
No longer in relationship, other reason	100	4	103	9.2
Not sure about relationship	45	0	45	4.0
Total			1118	100.0

Women

Most respondents (139, 69.8%) had a regular male partner before coming to prison; 20 (10.0%) had more than one regular male partner. Twenty-six women (13.1%) had a regular female partner, and three of them had more than one regular female partner. Six women had both a male and a female regular partner, leaving 40 women (20.1%) who had no regular partner before coming to prison. Table 3.4 shows those who considered themselves still to be in the primary relationship, and of those whose relationship had ended, whether coming to prison was the cause of the end of the relationship.

Sexual contacts in prison

Men

Sixty-five men (5.8%) said they had ever had any sexual contact including touching with another inmate. The length of time they had been in prison before this happened ranged from one day to 16 years. For 35 men this happened during their first time in an adult prison. Most men (54) said it was consensual, 10 said it was not consensual, and one said he 'sort of' agreed to it. For 25 men it was their first sexual experience with a male.

'Well, I didn't enjoy it as much as he did because I just wasn't that way, yeah [...] At the time it felt good, but afterwards I felt a bit bad, felt a bit guilty. I just put it behind me.' (Male ex-prisoner, age 39)

The number of inmates these 65 men had had sexual contact with ranged from one to 50 partners (Table 3.5). Most men had some form of sex with one to five partners, over 40% of them with only one man. However, three men had oral sex with 41 to 50 partners, and one had anal sex with 21 to 30 partners.

Of the 37 men who reported anal intercourse with an inmate, 25 had used a condom at least once for anal sex.

Men who had had sexual contact with another inmate were asked about reasons why they might have done this; the majority reported that it was for pleasure (72.3%) (Table 3.6).

Table 3.4 Regular relationship status of women before prison and since coming to prison

	Male partners	Female partners	Total	
	No.	No.	No.	%
Not in a regular relationship before prison	–	–	40	20.1
Still in primary relationship	89	14	102	51.3
No longer in relationship due to coming to prison	23	8	28	14.1
No longer in relationship, other reason	21	2	21	10.6
Not sure about relationship	6	2	8	4.0
Total			199	100.0

Table 3.5 Number of male inmates with whom male respondents had had sexual contact (for 65 men who had any sexual contact with another inmate)

	Any contact		Fellatio		Anal intercourse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	–	–	17	26.2	28	43.1
One	27	41.5	21	32.3	15	23.1
2–5	24	36.9	17	26.2	13	21.5
6–10	9	13.8	5	7.7	7	10.8
11–20	2	3.1	2	3.1	0	0.0
21–50	2 ^a	3.1	3	4.6	1	1.5
Don't know/Can't count/Refused	1	1.5	0	0.0	1	1.5
Total	65	100	65	100.0	65	100.0

(a) One respondent reported having sexual contact with only seven inmates but then went on to say that he had oral sex with 50 inmates.

Anal and oral sex: How not to get caught having prison sex

‘Oral sex can happen very quickly, because you can’t lock your door and all these sorts of things. So you grab the moment. And the moment doesn’t give you time for sort of taking your clothes off, put a condom on, have anal sex, all of those sorts of things. All of those things come into the picture. I do know of people that have. I also know of people that have been busted by (a) by the screws and (b) by other inmates. So it becomes fairly awkward – [...] ... for instance if there’s a knock on the door, you can’t put your clothes on in that short a time. Whereas with oral sex it’s basically undo your fly, it’s all happening, and within seconds you can have your fly zipped up. It’s very quick. So that’s where I would say there’s not a lot of anal sex taking place in jail, but there’s a fair bit of oral sex.’ (Male prisoner, age 58)

Table 3.6 Reasons agreed to by 65 male respondents who had had sexual contact with another inmate

	No.	%
For pleasure	47	72.3
To avoid being physically or sexually assaulted by someone else, i.e. for protection	11	16.9
To pay for drugs	2	3.1
To pay for other goods (like food etc.)	2	3.1
To repay any other debt	0	0.0
None of the above	10	15.4

The last time these 65 men had had sexual contact with another inmate ranged from one day to 35 years ago. Fifty-five men (84.6%) said they had consented to it on this occasion.

The ages of the men this happened with ranged from 18 to 61 years (median 28 years). Practices engaged in are shown in Table 3.7.

Table 3.7 Sexual practices engaged in by 65 male respondents at last sexual contact with another inmate

	No.	%
Manual sex (respondent’s penis)	50	76.9
Manual sex (respondent’s hand)	26	40.0
Insertive fellatio (respondent’s penis)	40	61.5
Receptive fellatio (respondent’s mouth)	20	30.8
Insertive anal intercourse (respondent’s penis)	15	23.1
Condom used	10	
Lubricant used	12	
Receptive anal intercourse (respondent’s anus)	16	24.6
Condom used	7	
Lubricant used	9	
Orgasm (respondent)	51	78.5

It is often thought that most sex between men in prison is ‘situational’ and occurs between men who have not had same-sex contact in other settings. However, Table 3.8 shows that the majority of men in the survey who had ever had same-sex contact did so only outside prison. Further, the majority of men who did have sexual contact with a male in prison had had sexual contact with males outside prison as well. The base for this table is the 122 men who said in answer to the question early in the interview (Table 2.3, p. 15) that they had had any sexual contact with males, plus three more who admitted to same-sex contact on the check question. (This does not correspond with the 65 men discussed in the preceding paragraphs – only 53 of those 65 admitted earlier in the interview that they had ever had sexual contact with a male. Some of the discrepancy is accounted for by men whose sexual contact with an inmate was not consensual and who did not count it as sex when asked earlier about sexual contact with males.)

Women

Seventy-one women (35.7%) said they had ever had any sexual contact including touching with

Table 3.8 Where male respondents with any same-sex experience had had sexual contact with males

	No.	% of men with same-sex experience	% of total sample
No sexual experience with males	993	–	88.8
Outside prison	77	61.6	6.9
Both inside and outside prison	29	23.2	2.6
In prison	17	13.6	1.5
Refused	2	1.6	0.2
Total	125	100.0	11.2

another inmate. The length of time they had been in prison before this happened ranged from one day to 14 years. For 29 women this happened during their first time in an adult prison. Almost all the women (70) said it was consensual, and one said she 'sort of' agreed to it. For 23 women it was their first sexual experience with a female. Note that some women who have had sexually coercive experiences may not have counted this as 'sexual contact' when asked about sex.

The number of inmates these women had had sexual contact with ranged from one to 35, apart from one outlier who claimed to have had oral sex with more than 500 women. See Table 3.9 for details. Most women had oral sex with one to five partners.

Table 3.9 Number of inmates with whom 71 female respondents had sexual contact

	Any contact		Cunnilingus	
	No.	%	No.	%
None	–	–	13	18.6
One	27	38.6	23	32.9
2–5	28	40.0	22	31.4
6–10	5	7.1	4	5.7
11–20	5	7.1	2	2.9
21–30	2	2.9	2	2.9
31–40	1	1.4	1	1.4
>500	1	1.4	1	1.4
Don't know/Can't count/ Refused	2	2.9	3	4.3
Total	71	100	71	100

Eight women said they had ever used a dental dam and four said they had used a condom or a glove while having sex with a female inmate.

Women who had had sexual contact with another inmate were asked about reasons why they might have done this; the majority reported that it was for pleasure (Table 3.10).

Table 3.10 Reasons agreed to by 71 female respondents who had had sexual contact with another inmate

	No.	%
For pleasure	58	81.7
To avoid being physically or sexually assaulted by someone else, i.e. for protection	4	5.6
To pay for drugs	4	5.6
To pay for other goods (like food etc.)	2	2.8
To repay any other debt	2	2.8
None of the above	11	15.5

'Gate gays'

'They swing at the gate. When they walk through the gate of the jail, they know they've got no men, so they take what they can get.'
(Female ex-prisoner, age 31)

'I'd never been with a woman and um my heart used to – used to flutter when I used to see her and I used to get nervous, get butterflies and it was really – oh it was really overwhelming. Um until one day I got the courage to ask her out and I said it really quickly and she jumped, she said, "Yes, yes, yes", and then I thought when I went home [to the shared household inside jail], why did I say that, I think I put my foot in my mouth again and the next day she walked past and touched my hand and I got really nervous because I've never been with a woman and um it was weeks later that I moved ... over to her side of the jail ... But you know I've had two bisexual relationships and a long-term relationship um they were both good relationships [inside prison], good experience, but now I've gone back with me husband, as you know, I'm faithful.' (Female ex-prisoner, age 36)

The last time these 71 women had had sexual contact with another inmate ranged from one day to 14 years ago. Sixty-eight women said they had consented to it on this occasion. The ages of the women this happened with ranged from 19 to 44 years. Practices engaged in are shown in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11 Sexual practices engaged in by 71 female respondents at last sexual contact with another inmate

	No.	%
Manual sex (respondent's vaginal area)	60	84.5
Manual sex (respondent's hand)	60	84.5
Cunnilingus (respondent's vaginal area)	44	62.0
Cunnilingus (respondent's mouth)	40	56.3
Orgasm (respondent)	56	78.9

Despite the 'gate gay' remarks made by some prisoners in the qualitative interviews, it appears that only a minority of female prisoners without same-sex experience have same-sex contact in prison (Table 3.12). The base for this table is the 118 women who reported any same-sex experience early in the interview (Table 2.3, p. 15), plus a further one picked up later on the check question.

The ambiguity of consent

‘One woman had to put herself in Protection to get away from her. [...] Well basically this one wanted sex every night. She didn’t [the other partner], but she’s got to accept her responsibility because she teamed up with this one for protection [to stop the other woman constantly pinching and punching her], you see. [...] Yeah. She teamed up with her for all the wrong reasons. So she made her bed. Do you know what I mean? But ... the butch [woman], she had no idea the other one didn’t want sex. She can’t call her a rapist. But I can understand how the other one felt raped, because she didn’t want to have sex. She didn’t have the courage to say no, but then she’d get a black eye [if she refused]. I don’t know what it was. I used to watch them all day and for some reason this one could not stop picking on her, hitting on her, pinching her ... it was unbelievable.’ (Female ex-prisoner, age 45)

Physical and sexual assaults in prison

Non-sexual physical assault in prison is fairly common: 379 (33.9%) men and 54 women (27.1%) women said they had been assaulted or attacked (clarified by interviewers as ‘beaten up or injured’) in prison.

A sizable minority of prisoners feared before they came to prison that they would be sexually assaulted there. Far fewer were currently frightened of being sexually assaulted in prison. Similar numbers had actually been threatened with sexual assault in prison, some of them repeatedly. A few prisoners said they had been forced or frightened into unwanted sexual activity in prison, and some said this had happened repeatedly (Table 3.14).

Table 3.14 Sexual coercion in prison: perception before prison and experience in prison

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Before coming to prison, worried about being sexually assaulted in prison	334	29.9	43	21.6
Currently scared of being sexually assaulted in prison	82	7.3	13	6.5
Threatened with sexual assault	64	5.7	14	7.0
Forced or frightened into unwanted sexual activity	27	2.4	8	4.0

Unwanted sexual activity had happened between one and six times for both men and women. Of those forced or frightened into unwanted sexual activity in prison, 13 men and two women reported that this had happened more than once. Note that the rate of experience of sexual coercion outside prison is high for this sample (see above, **Sexual forcing or coercion**, p. 21).

Masturbation and sexual frustration

Many people had masturbated alone while they were in prison (959 (85.8%) men and 66 (33.2%) women); 686 men (61.4% of the total sample) and 47 women (23.6%) had masturbated in prison within the past four weeks. Reported frequency of masturbation in the previous four weeks ranged from one to 120 times for men (with an outlier of 350 times) and one to 28 times for women. Men were more likely to have masturbated and to have done so more often than women. Some people (207 men, 13 women) had masturbated while someone else was in the room (i.e. someone they were not having sex with at the time).

Many people (636 (56.9%) men, 87 (43.7%) women) said they had felt sexually frustrated while in prison.

Table 3.12 Where female respondents with any same-sex experience had had sexual contact with females

	No.	%	% of total sample
No sexual experience with females	80	–	40.2
Outside prison	45	22.6	22.6
Both inside and outside prison	58	29.1	29.1
In prison	16	8.0	8.0
Total	119	100.0	59.8

Masturbation and the art of 'fifi'

'It's what they call a "fifi" [...] they rip a hole in [the mattress], stick the condom in the hole or just lube in the hole, and just go for it, hell for leather. Pillow – you do the same. Fifi can be anything from a tea towel, a towel, a shirt, shorts, anything that you can roll up [...] you make the hole [...] big enough, depending on the size of your unit, of your penis. And then you slide the condom down there, and run the actual end of it, which would then, then that goes right down to your balls, over this end [...] some guys will then pin that in their pillow and then lay the pillow down and go for it that way. Or some guys will just lay there and just use the fifi as a hand. So then they're not actually doing it with their hand.' (Male prisoner, age 45)

Attitudes to sex in prison

Despite the difficulty with the double negative in disagreeing with the statement 'Choosing to have sex in prison doesn't make you gay', most male prisoners (74.2%) resolutely held that having sex with men *did* make you gay. Women were much more tolerant of same-sex contact and of sex in prison. There was overwhelming support from men, and high support from women, for the idea of permitting overnight visits from partners (Table 3.13).

Table 3.13 Prisoners' agreement ('agree' or 'strongly agree') with attitude statements about sex in prison (1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Sex between two inmates in prison is always wrong	709	63.4	34	17.1
It's OK for inmates to have sex in prison then go back to their partners	128	11.5	50	25.1
Choosing to have sex in prison doesn't make you gay	182	16.3	109	54.8
Inmates should be allowed to have private (i.e. overnight) family/partner visits	1014	90.7	158	79.4

'Grooming' and sexual coercion

First two weeks I was here, spent a lot of time in my cell, [an inmate] just giving me cigarettes, just lollies and food, stuff like that. [He] started grooming, started grooming [...] kept on telling me about his little trade secrets, his massages and that. 'Just give you above the knee', and he'd often give massages. [I] said, 'All right, give me a massage.' He's giving me a massage, and all of a sudden, his elbow bumps my groin area. Because he's done that, he's got me all relaxed from the massages, there's an erection there, yeah, I gave in and gave him oral sex. That was the first time with that guy, and I absolutely went whacked [angry] at that person afterwards because I –

Sorry?

I really lost it with that person, throw them off the rails up there.

Because of what he did?

What he did, yeah. I didn't want to do it, but he was that good, you've got no idea how good they are. [...] I didn't realise it. And then when he's finished, and [I] ejaculated ... I'm actually thinking, 'You little bugger, I didn't want to do that.' [...] ... Yeah, he got me. I wasn't happy. I was not happy ...

Do you feel that's coercion?

It is, yeah. (Male prisoner, age 22)

Sexual health services in prison

Access to health services

Most prisoners (829 (74.2%) men, 159 (79.9%) women) believed that information they gave to public health or sexual health nurses would be kept confidential, and most (918 (82.1%) men, 182 (91.5%) women) said they would feel comfortable seeing a nurse. Given the choice, women prisoners mostly preferred a female nurse (168 women, 84.4%), but men's views were more varied: 503 (45.0%) men said either a male or female nurse, or that it did not matter, while a third (373, 33.4%) preferred a female nurse. Only 219 (19.6%) male prisoners preferred to see a male nurse for a sexual health matter. Less than a third of men (342, 30.6%) had actually seen a sexual health nurse, but a majority (122, 61.34%) of women had. A third of

Clunk, clunk: The whole jail knows you've taken a condom

'That [condom] machine at the moment [...] You have to push the slide thing in there and one [condom box] comes out and sits [on a tray]. Well of course that makes a lot of noise [...] so] what I do on the way back from muster [is push the slide thing on the condom machine and leave the condom box sitting on the tray]. People can see me. I don't care. All I'm doing is putting a condom into that tray. I haven't taken one. So there's no talk about me. I didn't take one or [people can't say], "They're gonna have a fuck tonight," or anything like that. Nothing like that. It's still in the machine. All I've done is filled [the tray] up. When the opportunity exists, when there's nobody coming down the stairs, nobody in the office, nobody coming in the corridor, then I take it.' (Male prisoner, age 58)

the men (374, 33.5%) and nearly half the women (95, 47.7%) said they had been tested for an STI while they were in prison.

Access to condoms

Most men (1043, 93.9%) said they had access to a condom dispensing machine. Half (559, 50.3%) said they had ever got a condom packet from a dispensing machine; three men said they had other ways of getting condoms. Only 25 men (2.2%) reported ever using a condom for anal intercourse in jail. However, the qualitative data (see 'Masturbation and the art of "fifi"', p. 33) indicate that condoms are also used for masturbation.

Access to STI protection for women

Dental dams are available from dispensing machines in women's prisons. Eight women (4.0%) reported having ever used a dental dam when having sex with a woman in prison. Four female respondents (2.0%) reported having ever used a condom or glove when having sex with a woman in prison.

Drugs in prison

Since coming into prison, nearly one in three prisoners had taken non-prescribed drugs, and some had injected drugs, though it was a much smaller percentage than had injected drugs before

coming to prison (Table 3.15; compare Table 2.33). Of those who injected in prison, many had used a needle after someone else; this represents about 10% of all prisoners and more than three quarters of those who injected. No data were collected on frequency of use. This drug use may have occurred during the current or a previous period of incarceration.

Table 3.15 Use of drugs in prison (all percentages of total sample, 1118 men, 199 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Used a non-prescribed drug	366	32.7	53	26.6
Injected a drug	122	10.9	29	14.6
Used a needle after someone else	96	8.6	23	11.6

Sex and alcohol after release from prison

Sex during short-term release

Of those allowed short-term prison release (147 (13.1%) men and 30 (15.1%) women), 93 men (63.3%) and six women (20.0%) reported having had sexual contact outside prison during a day, weekend or work release.

Sex after release from prison

Six hundred and fifty-one men (96.6% of the 674 who had been in prison before) and 100 women (88.5% of 113) reported having had sexual contact between prison sentences. See Table 3.16 for the relationship to the partner with whom respondent had his or her sexual experience after release from prison.

Table 3.16 Relationship to the partner with whom respondent had his or her first sexual experience after release from prison (651 men and 100 women who had sex)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Regular partner mentioned previously	298	45.8	63	63.0
Another regular partner	67	10.3	12	12.0
Occasional sexual partner	62	9.5	5	5.0
Casual partner/one-night stand	166	25.5	7	7.0
Sex worker	38	5.8	2	2.0
Other	19	2.9	11	11.0
Refused	1	0.2	0	0.0
Total	651	100.0	100	100.0

Almost all of those who had sex (636 (97.7%) men and 78 (96.3%) women) reported having penetrative (vaginal or anal) intercourse. A majority of respondents reported not using a condom during intercourse, 357 (56.1% of those who had intercourse) of the men and 50 (64.1%) of the women.

Sex work

Respondents were asked whether they had paid for sex or done sex work in the two weeks after a release from prison (Table 3.17).

Table 3.17 Experience of paying for and being paid for sex in the two weeks after release from prison (674 men, 113 women)

	Men		Women	
	No.	%	No.	%
Paid for sex	8	1.2	0	0.0
Was paid for sex	8	1.2	9	23.7
Total	674	100.0	113	100.0

Binge drinking

Of 787 respondents who had previously been released from prison, many reported drinking alcohol on at least one occasion in the two weeks after their release (483 (71.7%) men and 44 (38.9%) women). As a measure of binge drinking, we asked whether respondents had drunk more than six standard drinks in any one day; 378 men (56.1%) and 24 women (21.2%) had done so. The frequency of consuming more than six standard drinks per day among the binge drinkers is illustrated in Figure 3.3.

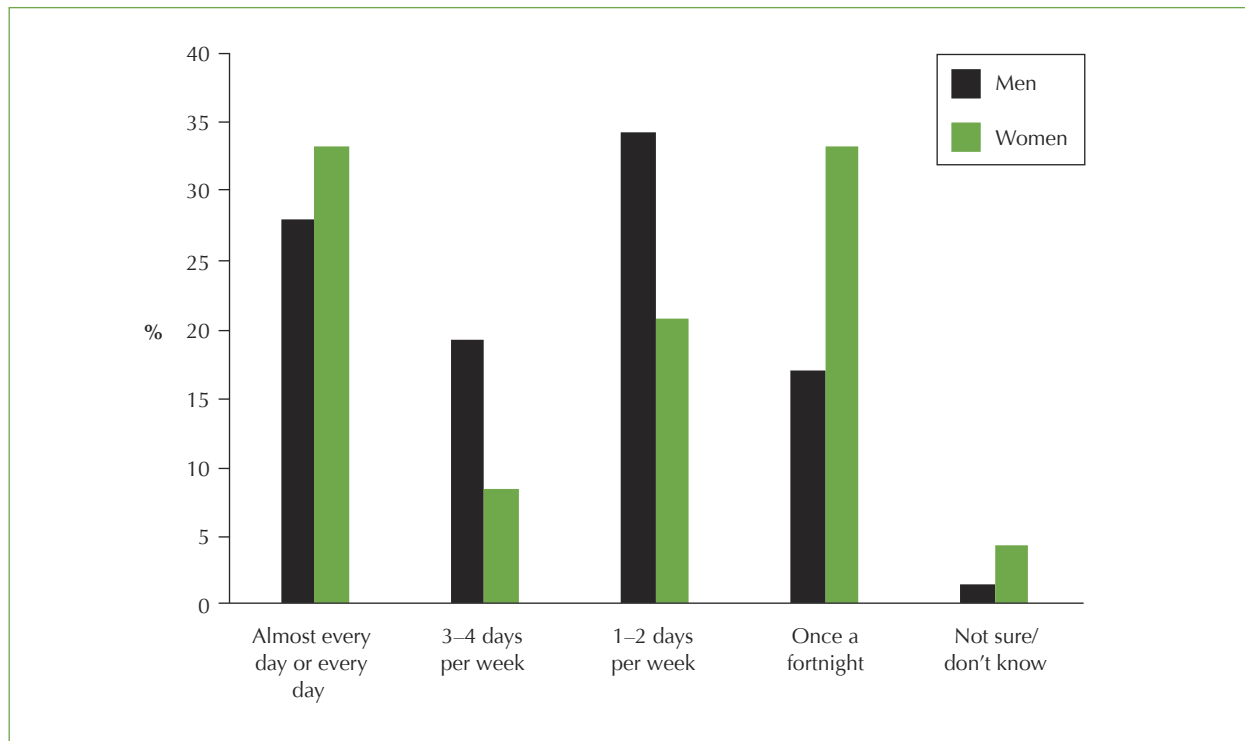


Figure 3.3 Frequency of consuming more than six standard drinks per day in the two weeks after release from prison (among 378 men and 24 women who did so)

RESULTS PART 4: INSIGHTS FROM THE IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS

Between August 2006 and June 2007, Lorraine Yap conducted 58 interviews with 59 current and ex-prisoners. One interview was with a couple in a long-term relationship in a men's prison. Thirty-two men, 19 women and seven male-to-female transgender people were interviewed. Eighteen interviews were conducted with ex-prisoners and 41 with current prisoners. Participants were aged between 19 and 60 years and current inmates had prison sentences ranging from less than 12 months to 20 years; some were repeat offenders. They identified themselves as heterosexual, bisexual, gay or lesbian, and (among transgender people) as 'having sexual relations with men only'.

As recruitment was purposive, the interviewees were not statistically representative of the inmate population. Interviews explored topics not covered in detail in the telephone survey and thus complemented the quantitative data on prisoners' sexuality and sexual behaviour. For example, no questions specifically about sex with transgender people were asked in the telephone interview, so such encounters would either be unrecorded, or included as sex with males or with females. A male-to-female transgender person (even a pre-operative one) in a men's jail occupies a feminised social role, such that a heterosexual man having sex with her may be able to avoid regarding the encounter as a threat to his heterosexual self-image. Sometimes a heterosexual man will also accept offers of receptive fellatio from gay men, but would not return the favour. Sex also figures in the jail economy where drugs, especially tobacco, function as currency; sexual favours (e.g. fellatio or a 'hand job') are sometimes bought from inmates 'hanging out' for a cigarette.

Prisoners and ex-prisoners reported various tactics of impression management to avoid the attention of sexually interested or sexually aggressive inmates. Gay and bisexual men often maintained a strictly heterosexual image. Young and pretty men shaved their hair or wore scungy clothes.

The situation of the (very few) HIV-positive inmates in prison was also explored. NSW DCS policy requires that an inmate with HIV be housed in a

Four of the girls that were involved in the group sex, [...] I found out that the four of them had chlamydia. Is it VD or something?

Venereal disease?

Syphilis or something like that. Yeah, that. And one of them had herpes. The warts or whatever they are.

Genital warts?

Yeah, them things, yeah. And I've heard of other girls who've just had one-on-one sex, they've got chlamydia. That was the main STI I heard of girls getting in jail, was chlamydia. But I ended up catching gonorrhoea, I found out when I got out of jail. (Female ex-prisoner, age 19)

one-bed cell, unless he consents to the disclosure of his HIV status to an inmate with whom he wishes to be housed. The cellmate must then complete an 'Association of HIV positive inmates' form undertaking not to engage in any behaviour which would be likely to result in HIV infection. This regulation can have awkward consequences for a prisoner who does not wish to disclose his HIV-positive status, as the other prisoners may infer from the special treatment he receives that he is either HIV-positive or gay or both and discriminate against him as a result.

The atmosphere in the women's jails was very different. Disapproval of same-sex activity was much less apparent. Some of the women had been in relationships with women, and about half had had sexual experiences with females, before coming to prison. Romantic and affectionate relationships in jail were not uncommon, though exploitative and abusive relationships also occurred, as exemplified in the text boxes in the section above on sexual contacts in prison. One woman experienced an assault that might more accurately be termed 'genital assault' than sexual assault, i.e. being pinned down by other inmates and subjected to a vaginal search for drugs. Some other interviewees who had not themselves experienced genital assaults told of them in response to questions about their awareness of sexual assault in jail.

CONCLUSION

The successful completion of the telephone survey showed that it is possible to do anonymous telephone interviewing in the prison context and achieve a high response rate of 80%. The combination of the privacy of speaking on the telephone and the high response rate means that our results are likely to be robust. Gaes & Goldberg (2004) note that many self-administered surveys on sexual assault in prison have response rates of 50% or even less, putting the generalisability of their results in question. This survey has provided data on an under-surveyed part of the population which will allow comparison with representative national household samples such as the Australian Study of Health and Relationships (ASHR; Smith et al., 2003) and the current Australian Longitudinal Study of Health and Relationships (Smith et al., 2007).

Scepticism about the validity of telephone surveys is common among the public, but we are confident that the results are largely valid. Building on the experience of sex survey researchers since Alfred Kinsey and his team in the 1940s, we carefully chose question wording and order to make disclosure of variant experience and opinions easy and non-stigmatising. As one prisoner put it, reflecting the views of many others, 'It was great that it was over the phone, you could be more honest.' However, apparently not all prisoners trusted that the interview was anonymous and that the call was not monitored by DCS; one wrote on his exit survey form: 'Any questions relating to criminal matters is legal liability forces prisoners to lie.' Nonetheless, the proportion of prisoners reporting at the end of the interview that less than 'most' of their answers had been honest was only about 1%. (In ASHR, 1.5% indicated that they had answered less than 90% of questions honestly; less than 90% honesty was more common among younger men and those with less education, lower incomes and blue-collar occupations (Smith et al., 2003).)

A few prisoners obviously agreed to take part cynically, in order to receive the \$10. However, the number of incomplete or unmatchable interview records was low, no higher a proportion than is common in surveys in other contexts. Although

it might be suspected that a group of criminals would be systematically dishonest, there was little evidence of this. Participants had nothing to gain by lying unless they believed that the whole survey was an elaborate lie on our part. Maintaining a consistent fiction in a long interview is intellectually quite difficult and it is unlikely that more than a handful of prisoners attempted to do so. Of course, we cannot be sure that occasional respondents did not conceal particular illegal or disreputable acts, or invent colourful histories, but this is true in general population surveys also, not only on sexual topics. On the other hand, we know that respondents often tell anonymous faceless survey interviewers about things (such as abortions or assaults or childhood sexual events) that they have never told anyone else.

Because we were aware of the possibility of causing distress to respondents by bringing up painful events in their past such as sexual assault, we had a protocol to ensure that respondents were offered referrals to other services after the interview. A common response was that our questions had made them consider their sexual health and possible past exposure to risk, and several requested a sexual health appointment. Only one woman, who was reminded of distressing past experiences of sexual assault, was openly upset by the interview.

Although the majority of inmates appeared to find the telephone interview interesting, or at least a welcome break from the boredom of prison routine, it is clear that ideally the questionnaire should have been shorter and more simply worded. Some prisoners found the effort of concentrating on a challenging verbal task for more than half an hour somewhat of a strain. Although we did simplify some of the wording used in ASHR, it was still too sophisticated for some prisoners. As one remarked: 'Some words I had trouble understanding. It is better to use words that people understand.'

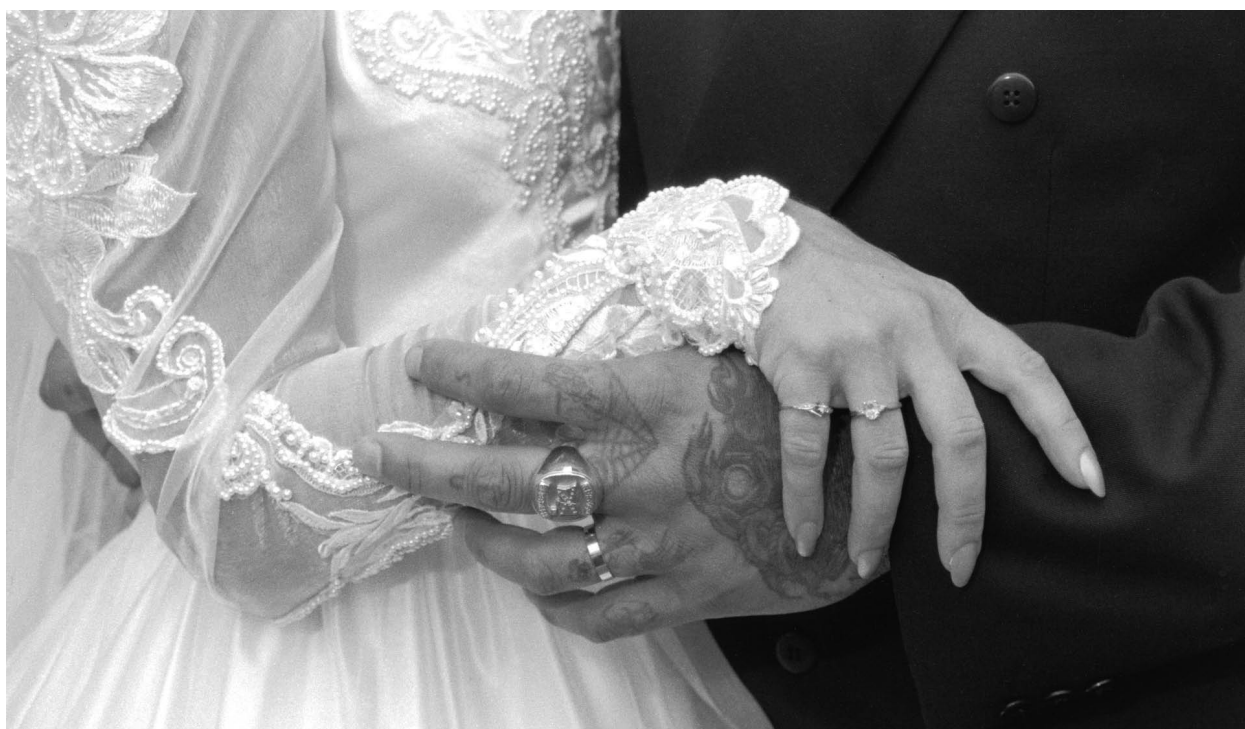
In general the findings confirm our expectation that prisoners as a group are more vulnerable to sexual ill health than the general population. The results are consistent with them being more likely to be indigenous, poor, less educated, unemployed,

mentally ill or otherwise disadvantaged. Prisoners were less likely to be married or living with a regular partner than the general population and they had a higher number of lifetime sexual partners. They were on average slightly younger at first intercourse, more likely to have first intercourse with a partner much older than themselves, and much less likely to use a condom or other protection on that occasion. Continuing rates of contraceptive use were also much lower than in the general population. Unsurprisingly, therefore, more prisoners had had abortions, even though they were more likely than the general public to think abortion wrong. Experience of sexual forcing or coercion in the past was about three times as common among prisoners as among the general community.

Some findings go against expectations, however. Apart from homosexual activity and abortion, prisoners' attitudes were roughly similar to other people's. Their knowledge about STIs was reasonably good, and they did not subscribe – at least in the interview – to the idea that only gays get AIDS, or that you can tell by looking at someone whether they have an STI. There is little evidence to support the idea that what they need is more education on these matters.

Claims of high rates of sexual exploitation of male prisoners, especially young men (as in Heilpern,

1998), were not supported. Our findings are consistent with other methodologically sound studies, as reported in Gaes & Goldberg's (2004) critical review of the topic. Their meta-analysis reported an average prison lifetime prevalence of sexual assault of 1.9%. In our study, fear of being sexually assaulted in jail was common, but after they arrived in jail, most men's fears receded, and only 2% reported having been forced or frightened into doing anything sexually that they did not want. This is of course 2% too many, and we hope that further analysis of the survey data, together with the more detailed accounts given in the in-depth interviews, will suggest further ways in which correctional authorities can prevent sexual victimisation. It appears that changes in the physical structure of jails (e.g. showers in cells), more invigilation of inmates through camera supervision of common areas, and improvements in the pastoral care of prisoners over recent years may have reduced the rates of sexual assault. Policies such as the installation of condom machines from 1996, together with the videos on HIV/AIDS played to newly arrived inmates in reception areas, may have raised awareness about sexual risk. It is also possible that the prevalence of sexual assault has been overstated in the past, so that a myth about the supposedly inevitable fate of young men who go to jail became implanted in the popular mind.



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APPENDIX 1: TELEPHONE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire

This is a simplified and edited version of the questionnaire computer program used for the survey; skips and filters are not shown. Not all the questions were asked of all the respondents. This version is based on the women's questionnaire, with questions from the men's version shown in some places for clarity, but not all the variants are shown. In the variant questions, wording was adjusted according to whether the respondent was a man or a woman and whether the partner referred to was male or female, regular or non-regular (casual). Response options are not shown when questions invited a simple yes/no response or a number (such as number of sexual partners). 'Don't know' and 'refused' options are generally not shown.

Roman print in square brackets is used for alternative or additional wording used where appropriate according to the answers to previous questions. It shows words actually read out by interviewers. *Italic* print in square brackets is used for (1) on-screen instructions to the interviewers, (2) editorial descriptions of specific words or phrases used, such as [*phone number*], and (3) explanations to the reader. Words in italics were not read out to the respondents. The bold headings (such as **'Introduction'** below) are for the reader's convenience and were not read out by the interviewers.

Introduction

Hello, my name is ——. I am calling on behalf of the Health Department and the University of New South Wales and I will be doing the Sexual Health and Attitudes Survey with you today. First I would just like to confirm that you have been told about the survey and that you have signed a consent form?

[*If yes*] Great! Can I have your study code number please? Thank you.

The survey will take about forty minutes for most people. If there are any questions you would prefer not to answer, just say so. We would like you to be as honest as possible and assure you that this is a private call. This phone is not being monitored by the Department of Corrective Services. All information you give will be kept private. For the purposes of training this call may be monitored by my supervisor.

Demographics

Which country were you born in?

What year did you first arrive in Australia?

What language do you usually speak at home? [*If necessary, say: By home we mean where you lived before you came to prison.*]

What is the postcode or name of the place you lived before you came into prison? [*If necessary, say: The place where you lived or spent most of the time.*]

What type of accommodation were you living in immediately before coming into prison?

- Renting
- Own or buying
- Living with parents
- Unsettled lodgings (e.g. squat, B&B, hostel, caravan, staying temporarily with friends)
- Sleeping rough (e.g. no fixed abode, on the streets, in a car)
- Hospital
- Other (specify)

Did anyone else beside you live in your household?

Did you live with a partner or husband[wife]? [*Includes same-sex partner.*]

Did you live with any children? [*Children are defined as under 16 years of age. Resident children include children under 16 who live there at least half the time.*]

In the place you lived in before coming to prison, did you have a landline telephone?

Have you ever done a telephone survey before?

In terms of legal marital status, are you – [*Traditional Aboriginal marriage counts as marriage.*]

- Married
- Never married
- Divorced
- Separated but not divorced
- Widowed

What is the highest educational qualification you have completed? [*If necessary, ask: What year did you go up to in school? Enter only one code; prompt if needed.*]

- No formal schooling
- Primary school only
- Lower secondary school / School Certificate / Intermediate Certificate / Year 10
- Technical or trade certificate
- Higher secondary school / HSC / VCE / Leaving Certificate / Year 12
- College certificate or diploma
- Undergraduate uni degree
- Postgraduate uni degree
- Other (specify)

Which of the following best describes your work status before you came into prison? You can pick more than one.

- Employed full-time *[includes self-employed]*
- Employed part-time *[includes self-employed, casually employed]*
- Home duties
- Unemployed
- Student
- Permanently ill or unable to work
- Retired
- Other (specify)

Have you ever worked?

What was your usual job before you came into prison? *[If unemployed, use type of work done previously, or being sought. If retired, use last employment.]*

- Manager or administrator *[e.g. general manager, farm manager, director of nursing, school principal]*
- Professional *[scientist, doctor, registered nurse, allied health professional, teacher, artist]*
- Associate professional *[technician, manager, youth worker, police officer]*
- Tradesperson and related *[hairdresser, gardener, florist]*
- Advanced clerical and service *[secretary, personal assistant, flight attendant, law clerk]*
- Intermediate clerical, sales, and service *[typing, data entry, receptionist, child care, nursing assistant, hospitality]*
- Intermediate production and transport *[sewing machinist, machine operator, bus driver]*
- Elementary clerical, sales, and service *[filing/mail clerk, parking inspector, sales assistant, telemarketer, housekeeper]*
- Labourer and related *[cleaner, factory worker, general farm hand, kitchen hand]*
- Other (specify)

Do you have a particular religion or faith? [*'No' means 'no religion'*.]

What religion or faith do you follow?

- Anglican / Church of England
- Baptist
- Catholic
- Lutheran
- Oriental Christian
- Orthodox Christian
- Presbyterian and Reformed
- Uniting Church
- Other Christian (Specify)
- Buddhist
- Islam / Muslim
- Aboriginal / Indigenous faith
- Other non-Christian (specify)
- Other (specify)
- No preferred religion

Before you came into prison, how often did you attend religious services or meetings? *[If only attends at festivals such as Easter and Christmas, code as 'less than monthly'.]*

- Never
- Only on special occasions (weddings, funerals, christenings etc.)
- Less than monthly
- Monthly
- Weekly
- Daily

In prison, how often did you attend services or meetings?

- Never
- Only on special occasions (weddings, funerals, christenings etc.)
- Less than monthly
- Monthly
- Weekly
- Daily

Your time in prison

Is this your first time in an adult prison?

How much time have you spent in adult prisons in total?

- Less than six months
- Six months to less than one year
- One to less than two years
- Two to less than five years
- Five to less than ten years
- More than ten years

How long have you been in prison so far this time?

- Less than one month
- One month to less than six months
- Six months to less than one year
- One to less than two years
- Two to less than five years
- Five to less than ten years
- More than ten years

Have you ever had day, weekend, work or study release during any of your time in prison?

Which one[s]? You can pick more than one.

- Day release
- Weekend release
- Work release
- Study release
- Other (specify)

Have you ever listened to the *Jailbreak* program on the Sydney radio station 2SER?

Yes / No / Can't get it where I am / Never heard of it

Did you ever spend any time in a juvenile detention centre?

How much time did you spend in juvenile detention centres in total? *[If necessary, ask: Can you add up all the periods of time you spent in juvenile detention?]*

- Less than six months
- Six months to less than one year
- One to less than two years
- Two to less than five years
- Five to less than ten years
- More than ten years

Sex and you

Do you think of yourself as – *[Read out categories 1–3 with numbers. If necessary, say: Just tell me the number that best describes you.]*

- 1 Heterosexual or straight
- 2 Homosexual (lesbian) [gay]
- 3 Bisexual
- 4 Queer
- 5 Not sure / undecided
- 6 Something else / other (specify)

I just need to check something before we continue – just to make sure we ask you the right questions.

Sometimes there are transgenders in [fe]male prisons. Are you a transgender?

[If yes] This questionnaire is designed for women[men]. Is it OK if I continue?

Now we would like to ask some questions about your sexual feelings and experiences.

Which of these six statements best describes you? I will read them out and ask you to please just give me the number. *[Order reversed for men.]*

- 1 I have felt sexually attracted only to males, never to females
- 2 ... more often to males, and at least once to a female
- 3 ... about equally often to males and to females
- 4 ... more often to females, and at least once to a male
- 5 ... only to females, never to males
- 6 I have never felt sexually attracted to anyone at all

In the next question, we say ‘sexual experience’. By that we mean any kind of contact with another person that you felt was sexual. It could be kissing, touching, or any other form of sex, including intercourse.

Which of these statements best describes you? Again, I will read out the list and you tell me the number. *[Order reversed for men.]*

- 1 I have had sexual experiences only with males, never with females
- 2 ... more often with males, and at least once with a female
- 3 ... equally often with males and with females
- 4 ... more often with females, and at least once with a male

5 ... only with females, never with males

6 I have never had any sexual experience with anyone at all

First sexual experiences

The next questions are about your first sexual experiences.

How old were you when you first had vaginal intercourse? *[Note: If respondent asks about sexual contact with adults as a child, say: You don’t need to count anything that happened when you were very young.]*

How old was he[she]?

[Prompt] Would he have been –

- Less than twelve years
- Twelve to fifteen years
- Sixteen or seventeen
- Eighteen to twenty-four
- Twenty-five to thirty-four
- Thirty-five to Forty-four
- Forty-Five to fifty-four
- Fifty-five to sixty-four
- More than sixty-five years

How long had you known him before you had sex for the first time? *[‘Known’ counts from when you first met in person.]*

- Less than 24 hours
- More than a day but less than a week
- More than a week, less than a month
- More than a month, less than a year
- A year or more

And who was he, what was his relationship to you? *[If response is ‘friend’, probe to ascertain whether ‘steady’ or ‘casual’.]*

- Husband[wife] – you were married to him[her]
- Fiancé – you were engaged to him *[promised husband for arranged marriage]*
- Living together but not married
- Steady partner *[includes boyfriend]*
- Casual partner *[includes friend, workmate etc.]*
- Sex worker
- Other (specify)

What contraception or precautions did you or he use that first time, such as a condom or anything else to stop you getting pregnant or catching something?

- Condom
- Other contraception (e.g. pill)
- He withdrew
- Made sure it was safe period
- Other (specify)
- No precautions

How old were you when you first had oral sex with a male[female]? That's with his penis in your mouth, or his mouth on your vaginal area. *[If respondent asks about sexual contact with adults as a child, say: You don't need to count anything that happened when you were very young.]*

Have you ever had anal intercourse with a man[woman]?

[If had any same-sex experience] How old were you when you first had sex with a female[male], not counting children's sex play? *[Let the respondent use her/his own definition of 'had sex'.]*

How old was she[he]? *[Prompt with age ranges if needed.]*

How long had you known her[him] before you had sex for the first time? *['Known' counts from when you first met in person.]*

- Less than twenty-four hours
- More than a day but less than a week
- More than a week, less than a month
- More than a month, less than a year
- A year or more

And who was she, what was her[his] relationship to you? *[If response is 'friend', probe to ascertain whether 'steady' or 'casual'.]*

- Living together
- Steady partner *[including girlfriend]*
- Casual partner *[including friend, workmate, etc.]*
- Sex worker
- Inmate
- Other (specify)

Sexual activity with men *[Corresponding questions asked of men about women.]*

Now some questions about your sexual activity with men.

In your whole life, how many men have you had sexual intercourse with? That's with his penis in your vagina or his penis in your anus. *[If respondent asks whether sex work is included, say: Yes, we ask more about that later. If respondent asks about sexual contact with adults as a child, say: You don't need to count anything that happened when you were very young. If respondent cannot give number, prompt with ranges.]*

Are there any [more] men that you had oral sex with – men that you didn't have sexual intercourse with? That's with his penis in your mouth, or his mouth on your vaginal area. *[If respondent asks about sexual contact with adults as a child, say: You don't need to count anything that happened when you were very young.]* How many?

In your whole lifetime, how many men have you had oral sex with? *[If respondent gives range, use middle value. If respondent cannot give number, prompt with ranges.]*

And are there any [more] men that you had some form of sexual contact with that involved touching or rubbing the penis or vaginal area? Men that you didn't have vaginal, anal or oral sex with.

How many? *[If respondent cannot give number, prompt with ranges.]*

Have you ever used a condom to have sex with a man?

Have you ever used a condom when having oral sex with a man?

Sexual experiences prior to prison

Now we would like to ask you some questions about your sexual experiences in the twelve months before you came to prison.

How many men[women] did you have sexual intercourse with in the twelve months before you came to prison? *[If respondent asks whether sex work is included, say: Yes, we ask more about that later. Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

Were there any more men[women] that you had oral sex with? Men that you didn't have vaginal and/or anal intercourse with *[If necessary, add: In the twelve months before you came to prison. Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

Were there any more men[women] that you had some form of sexual contact with that involved touching or rubbing the penis or vaginal area? Men that you didn't have vaginal, anal or oral sex with. *[If necessary, add: In the twelve months before you came to prison. Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

Did you use a condom to have sex with a man[woman] in the twelve months before you came to prison?

Regular relationship before prison

Thinking about just before you came into prison, did you have a regular male[female] sexual partner? *[If necessary, add: Someone you have an ongoing sexual relationship with. If respondent is married or reported a partner earlier but says no here, query.]*

Did you live with your regular partner?

Was there more than one? How many regular male[female] partners did you have? Did you live with one of them?

The next set of questions is about –

the regular partner you had before coming to prison *[or]*

the regular partner you lived with before coming to prison *[or]*

the regular partner you last had sex with before coming to prison.

How long had you been together before you came to prison? [*If respondent lived with a partner, add: Include any time before you were living together. If respondent unsure, say: Count from when you felt it became a regular relationship. Many people count from when they first had sex.*]

__ months

Less than one year

More than one year but less than two years

More than two years but less than five years

More than five but less than ten years

More than ten but less than twenty years

More than twenty years

How old is he[*she*] now? [*Prompt with age ranges if needed.*]

Now we would like to ask you some questions about your relationship before you came to prison.

Did you expect that he[*she*] would have sex only with you?

Yes / No / Not sure

And did you expect that you would have sex only with him[*her*]?

Did you discuss these expectations with him[*her*]?
[*Prompt: Did you talk about whether it was OK for either of you to have sex with other people?*]

Yes / No / Partly / Not sure

And did you both clearly agree about this?

In this relationship, was any kind of contraception being used? [*If necessary, add: Contraception like condoms or anything else to stop you getting pregnant.*]

Yes / No / Not sure / Don't know

What form of contraception was being used? [*Ignore occasional failure to use methods.*]

Contraceptive pill

IUD

Depo Provera injection

Implant

Your partner had a vasectomy

You have had your tubes tied

You have had a hysterectomy

Condoms

Safe period / natural family planning (rhythm method, Billings method, symptothermic, periodic abstinence)

Withdrawal (coitus interruptus, pulling out)

Other non-prescribed (specify)

Don't know

Did you use that every time, or another type or method as well?

Safe period / natural family planning (rhythm method, Billings method, symptothermic, periodic abstinence)

Withdrawal (coitus interruptus, pulling out)

Other non-prescribed (specify)

No other method

Don't know

How often did you usually have sex with him[*her*]? Not just intercourse, but including other forms of sex.

Less than once a week

Once a week

Twice or three times a week

Four to six times a week

Daily

Never

Thinking about your relationship with your partner.

How physically pleasurable did you find sex with him[*her*] to be? Was it –

Extremely pleasurable

Very pleasurable

Moderately pleasurable

Slightly pleasurable

Not at all pleasurable

Are you still in this relationship?

Did this relationship end because you are in prison?

We would now like to ask you some questions about your relationship now while you are in prison.

Do you expect that he[*she*] will have sex with anyone else?

And do you expect that you would have sex with anyone else? This includes with inmates in prison.

Have you discussed these expectations with him[*her*]? [*If necessary, ask: Have you talked about whether it's OK for either of you to have sex with other people?*]

Yes / No / Partly / Not sure

And have you both clearly agreed about this?

Last sexual experience before prison

Now we would like to ask you about the last time you had sex with a man[*woman*] before you came to prison. By sex we mean any kind of contact you felt was sexual, not just intercourse.

How long ago was that?

And who was he[*she*], what was his[*her*] relationship to you?

Live-in partner [*if lived with regular partner*]

Regular partner, but not living together

Occasional partner

Casual partner or one-night-stand

Other (specify)

Was this regular partner the one you described before? *[If necessary, ask: Was this the one you were talking about before, when I was asking you questions about your regular partner?]*

Yes / No, another regular partner

How old was he[*she*]? *[Prompt with age ranges if needed.]*

The last time you had sex, did he put his penis into your vagina? *[Corresponding questions asked of men about women.]*

Was a condom used?

Yes / No / Not sure

The last time you had sex, did he put his penis into your anus?

Was a condom used when you did this?

The last time you had sex, did you have oral sex with your mouth on his penis?

Did you have oral sex with his mouth on your vaginal area?

Did you touch or rub his penis with your hand?

Did he touch or rub your clitoris or vaginal area with his hand?

And the last time you had sex with a man before coming to prison, did you have an orgasm?

Sexual activity with women

[Check previous response by asking: You said earlier that you have had no sexual contact with females[males]. Is that correct? Wait for confirmation. If respondent has had sexual contact with women[men], continue with questions about sexual activity with women[men]. If respondent has stated previously that she/he has had sexual contact with women[men], say: Now, some questions about your sexual activity with women[men].]

Has your sexual contact with females[males] been out of prison, in prison or both? *[If respondent's only contact with females has been in prison, say: OK, we will ask about that later.]*

Out of prison

In prison

Both

We would first like to ask about your sexual activity with females[males] outside prison.

In your whole life, how many women have you had oral sex with? That is, your mouth on her vaginal area or her mouth on your vaginal area. *[If respondent asks whether sex work is included, say: Yes, we ask more about that later. If respondent asks about sexual contact with adults as a child, say: You don't need to count anything that happened when you were very young. Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

[Asked of men: In your whole life, how many men have you had anal intercourse with? That is, penis in anus sex.]

Are there any more women that you had some form of sexual contact with outside prison that involved touching the vaginal area? Women that you didn't have oral sex with? *[Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

Have you ever used a dental dam when having oral sex with a woman?

Yes / No / No, used something else (e.g. cling wrap)

[Asked of men: Have you ever used a condom when having anal/oral sex with a man?]

Have you ever used a glove when having sex with a woman?

Have you ever used a condom when having sex with a woman?

Now we would like to ask you about the twelve months before you came into prison.

How many women did you have oral sex with in the twelve months before you came into prison? *[Prompt with ranges if needed.]*

[Asked of men: How many men did you have anal intercourse with in the twelve months before you came into prison?]

Were there any more women that you had some form of sexual contact with that involved touching the vaginal area, in the twelve months before you came into prison? Women that you didn't have oral sex with.

We would now like to ask you about the time just before you came into prison.

Did you have a regular female[*male*] sexual partner before you came to prison? *[If necessary, say: Someone you had an ongoing sexual relationship with.]*

Was there more than one? Did you live with her[*him*]?

How many regular female[*male*] partners did you have? Did you live with one of them?

How long you had you been together before you came to prison. *[If respondent lived with a partner, add: Include any time before you were living together. If respondent unsure, say: Count from when you felt it became a regular relationship. Many people count from when they first had sex.]*

__ months

Less than one year

More than one year but less than two years

More than two but less than five years

More than five but less than ten years

More than ten but less than twenty years

More than twenty years

How old is she[*he*] now? *[Prompt with age ranges if needed.]*

Now we would like to ask you some questions about your relationship before you came to prison.

Did you expect she[he] would have sex only with you?

Yes / No / Not sure

And did you expect that you would have sex only with her[him]?

Did you discuss these expectations with her[him]? [*If necessary, ask: Did you talk about whether it was OK for either of you to have sex with other people?*]

Yes / No / Partly / Not sure

And did you both clearly agree about this?

Yes / No / Not sure

How often did you usually have sex with her[him]?

Less than once a week

Once a week

Twice or three times a week

Four to six times a week

Daily

Never

Thinking about your relationship with your partner.

How physically pleasurable did you find sex with her[him] to be? Was it –

Extremely pleasurable

Very pleasurable

Moderately pleasurable

Slightly pleasurable

Not at all pleasurable

Are you still in this relationship?

Yes / No / Not sure

Did this relationship end because you are in prison?

Now we would like to ask you some questions about your relationship now while you are in prison.

Do you expect that she[he] will have sex with anyone else?

And do you expect that you would have sex with anyone else? This includes with inmates in prison.

Have you discussed these expectations with her [him]? [*If necessary, ask: Have you talked about whether it's OK for either of you to have sex with other people?*]

Yes / No / Partly / Not sure

And have you both clearly agreed about this?

Last sexual encounter with a woman

Now we would like to ask you about the last time you had sex with a woman[man] before you came to prison.

How long ago was that?

And who was she[he], what was her[his] relationship to you?

Live-in partner

Steady partner, but not living together

Occasional partner

Casual partner or one-night-stand

Other (specify)

Was this regular partner the one you described before? [*If necessary, ask: Was this the one you were talking about before, when I was asking you questions about your regular partner?*]

Yes / No, another regular partner

How old was she[he]? [*Prompt with age ranges if needed.*]

The last time you had sex before coming to prison, did you have oral sex with her mouth on your vaginal area? [*If necessary, clarify: We are asking about the last time you had sex with a female before coming to prison.*]

Yes / No / Not sure

[*Asked of men: The last time you had sex before coming to prison, did you put your penis into his anus? Was a condom used? Did he put his penis into your anus? Was a condom used when he did this?*]

Did you have oral sex with your mouth on her vaginal area?

Did your partner touch or rub your vaginal area with her hand?

Did you stimulate, touch or rub her vaginal area with your hand?

And the last time you had sex with a female before coming to prison, did you have an orgasm?

Fertility

[*Section skipped if respondent has never had vaginal intercourse.*]

Now I would like to ask you some questions about contraception and pregnancy. [*If contraception questions have already been asked: In some cases the following questions may seem repetitive.*]

Did you use any kind of contraception in the twelve months before coming to prison?

Yes / No / Not sure

What form of contraception did you use? [*Ignore occasional failure to use methods.*]

Contraceptive pill

IUD

Depo Provera injection

Implant

Your partner had a vasectomy

You have had your tubes tied

You have had a hysterectomy

Condom

Safe period / natural family planning (rhythm method, Billings method, symptothermic, periodic abstinence)

Withdrawal (coitus interruptus, pulling out)

Other non-prescribed (specify)

Did you use that every time, or another type or method as well?

Have you ever used emergency contraception or the morning-after pill?

Yes / No / Don't know what it is

How many times have you used it?

Have you ever been pregnant?

Yes / No / Don't know

How old were you when you first became pregnant?

How many children have you had all together? *[If respondent asks whether only live births are included, say: Please don't include miscarriages, stillbirths or abortions; we ask about them in a minute.]*

Have you ever had a miscarriage?

Can you please tell me how many?

Have you ever had a stillbirth?

Can you please tell me how many?

Have you ever had a termination of pregnancy (i.e. an abortion)?

Can you please tell me how many?

Have you ever had a child that was given up for adoption?

Can you please tell me how many children you have given up for adoption?

Have you ever experienced difficulties trying to get pregnant?

Have you been treated to help you get pregnant?

Masturbation and esoteric practices

The next section is about things that some people do to add to sexual stimulation. If you have not heard of any of the things I read out, just tell me.

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you ever masturbate alone?

[If necessary, clarify: By masturbate, we mean play with or rub your genitals.]

In the twelve months before you came into prison how often did you usually masturbate alone? *[Orgasm is not required for activity to qualify as masturbation.]*

Less than once a week

Once a week

Twice or three times a week

Four to six times a week

Daily

In your lifetime outside prison, have you ever masturbated while someone else was in the same room? Not counting someone you were having sex with at that time.

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you have phone sex?

... did you call a telephone sex line?

... did you go to a sex site on the internet on purpose? *[This includes both looking at pictures and chat rooms.]*

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you meet a sexual partner through the internet?

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you watch an X-rated or porn movie? *[R-rated does not count.]*

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you use a sex toy such as a vibrator or dildo? *[Includes any toys such as butt plugs, ben-wa balls etc., but not feathers, canes, massage oils etc.]*

[From here on, if respondent doesn't understand questions or expresses discomfort, skip to next section.]

In the twelve months before coming into prison, were you involved in role playing or dressing up? *[Includes playing games like naughty schoolgirl, captain and cabin boy etc., or dressing up in fetish gear or, for men, female clothing.]*

In the twelve months before coming into prison, were you involved in B&D or S&M? That's bondage and discipline, sadomasochism, or dominance and submission.

And in the twelve months before coming into prison, were you involved in group sex? That is, sex with at least two other people at the same time.

In the twelve months before coming into prison, did you use your fingers to stimulate a partner's anus, or have a partner do that to you?

And in the twelve months before coming into prison, were you involved in fisting? *[Do not explain. If respondent asks which, it includes both receptive and insertive, vaginal and rectal fisting.]*

Were you involved in oral-anal contact or rimming, in the twelve months before coming into prison?

Sexual forcing

The next section is about sexual situations that both women and men may have experienced. We understand that sometimes these are difficult issues to discuss. For the next set of questions we would just like you to think about times outside of prison only.

Have you ever had a sexual experience with a male or a female when you didn't want to because you were too drunk or high at the time?

Have you ever been forced or frightened by a male or a female into doing something sexually that you did not want to do?

Was that by a male, female or both?

How many times has this happened to you?

How old were you the first time? [*If once: How old were you at the time?*]

Did you talk to someone else about it or seek help?

Who did you talk to? [*If respondent uses general term like chaplain, nurse, doctor or psychologist, clarify whether this was a professional in the community or prison. Say:*

Was this person in the community or someone working with inmates?]

- Brother or sister (sibling)
- Parent
- Friend
- Rape crisis centre
- Hospital
- Police
- Teacher
- Chaplain or other religious person
- Counsellor, psychologist, etc
- Doctor or nurse
- Magazines, newspapers, radio
- Spouse/partner
- Other relative
- Another inmate
- Justice Health nurse/doctor (including public/sexual health nurse)
- Prison chaplain or other religious person
- DCS welfare staff (Drug & Alcohol, welfare, psychologist)
- Other welfare person working specifically with inmates
- DCS officer
- Other (specify)

[*At interviewer's discretion. If inmate offers more information, say: At the end we can organise for you to speak to someone.*]

Sexual difficulties

The next questions are about your sex life twelve months before you came into prison.

In the twelve months before you came to prison, was there a period of one month or more when you lacked interest in having sex?

In the twelve months before you came into prison, was there a period of one month or more when you were unable to orgasm?

Yes / No / Never had orgasm

Was there a period of one month or more when you came to orgasm too quickly?

Was there a period of one month or more when you experienced physical pain during intercourse?

In the twelve months before you came into prison, was there a period of one month or more when you did not find sex pleasurable?

Was there a period of one month or more when you felt anxious about your ability to perform sexually?

Was there a period of one month or more when you had trouble with vaginal dryness?

[*Asked of men: In the twelve months before you came into prison, was there a period of one month or more when you had trouble keeping an erection when you wanted to?*]

During sex do you worry whether your body looks unattractive?

Ideally, outside prison, how often would you like to have sex? [*Pause and read out list with numbers.*]

- 1 More than once a day
- 2 Daily
- 3 Four to six times a week
- 4 Two to three times a week
- 5 Once a week
- 6 Once every two weeks
- 7 Once every three weeks
- 9 Monthly
- 10 Less than monthly
- 11 Every six months
- 12 Annually
- 13 Never

[*Asked of men: Over your lifetime, how many times has a condom actually broken when you were having sex with another person?*]

Sex work

Have you ever been paid [ever paid anyone] money for sex, including oral sex and hand jobs? [*If respondent has done sex work but did not receive the money herself, code as 'yes'.*]

In your lifetime, how many men have paid money for sex with you? Did you include these men who paid you when I asked earlier about the number of men you have ever had sex with?

How old were you the first time a man paid money for sex with you?

Did a man pay money for sex with you in the twelve months before you came into prison?

[*Asked of men: Did you pay to have sex with a woman in the twelve months before you came into prison?*]

What year was the last time a man paid you for sex?

In the twelve months before you came into prison, where did you do sex work? Please tell me 'yes' or 'no' for each one.

On the street?

In a brothel, i.e. with a manager? [*Includes heterosexual saunas and swingers' clubs where women are paid by the house.*]

In a house or flat with a small group of women
Escort agency

Massage parlour
Privately or informally *[Includes internet or classified ad, if she does not work in above venues.]*
Beat or sex venue
Other *[Includes bar girls and other arrangements overseas.]*

Did you usually work –
Alone?
With a minder/sitter/partner?
With one other worker?
With several other sex workers?

Thinking about the last time you were paid for sex, was this the last sexual encounter you told me about earlier?

The next few questions are about the last time a man paid you for sex, even if this was different from usual for you.

How old do you think he was? *[Prompt with age ranges if needed.]*

The last time a man paid you for sex, did he put his penis in your vagina?

Was a condom used?

[Asked of men: Was a condom used? Includes Femidom.]

The last time a man paid you for sex, did he put his penis in your anus?

Was a condom used when he did this?

[Asked of men: Was a condom used? Includes Femidom.]

The last time a man paid you for sex, did you have oral sex with his penis in your mouth?

Was a condom used? *[If necessary, ask: Did he wear a condom?]*

Did you have oral sex with his mouth on your vaginal area?

Did you touch or rub his penis with your hand?

Did he touch or rub your vaginal area with his hand?

[Asked of men: How much did you pay, the last time you paid a woman for sex?]

Have you ever been paid for sex with a woman?

Were you paid by a man or men, or by the woman?

By a man or men
By the woman
Both at different times

Have you ever paid money for sex, including oral sex or sexual touching?

Have you ever paid for sex with a man? *[If respondent visited a sex worker and someone else paid, code as 'yes'.]*

How old were you the first time you paid for sex with a man?

In your lifetime, how many men have you paid money to for sex?

Have you ever paid money for sex with a woman?

[Similar questions asked of men about paying for sex with other men, types of sex, use of condoms, paying for sex with transgenders, paid sex with women and whether they have paid for sex with men.]

Your time in prison

Now we are going to ask you questions about your time in prison.

Since you came into prison, have you had any visits from a partner, friends or family?

In the past four weeks, how many times have you had contact with your children? This includes via visits, phone calls or letters.

You said earlier that you are still in a relationship with the regular partner you had before coming to prison. How do you keep in contact with your partner while you are in prison?

Visits
Phone
Letters
Other (specify)
Don't have contact with partner while in prison

In the last four weeks, how many times have you had contact with your regular partner? This includes via visits, phone calls or letters. *[If necessary, ask: Can you add up how many times you would have seen, talked to or sent/received a letter from your partner in the past month?]*

When was the last time you had contact with your regular partner?

Have you ever had sex with someone during a visit? By sex we mean any kind of contact you felt was sexual, not just intercourse.

We would now like to ask you some questions about sex in prison, or situations you've been in.

[Included for men in this section: You might feel a little embarrassed but there is no need to be. No one will know what answers you give and the information you provide will be important for improving the sexual health services for inmates.]

We understand that what you do in prison might not be what you do outside prison.

In all the time you have spent in prison, have you ever had any sexual contact, including touching, with another inmate?

And how much time had you spent in prison before your first sexual contact with another inmate?

Was that during your first time in an adult prison?

Did you agree to this? [*If necessary, ask: Did you consent to this first sexual contact with an inmate?*]

Yes / No / Sort of

Was this your first sexual experience with another female[male]?

How many inmates have you had sexual contact with, including touching, in all the time you have spent in adult prisons? [*Prompt with ranges if needed.*]

How many inmates have you had oral sex with? [*If necessary, clarify: That is, your mouth on her vaginal area or her mouth on your vaginal area. Prompt with ranges if needed.*]

[*Asked of men: How many inmates have you had anal intercourse with? That is, penis in anus sex.*]

How many inmates have you had oral sex with, with her[*your*] mouth on your[*her*] vaginal area? [*In all the time the respondent has spent in prison. Prompt with ranges if needed.*]

How many times have you had sexual contact with an inmate in the past four weeks? This includes things like sexual touching.

Have you ever used a dental dam to have sex with a woman while you were in prison?

Yes / No / No, can't get dental dams in prison / Not sure

Have you ever used a condom or glove to have sex with a woman[*man*] while you were in prison?

Yes / No / No, can't get condoms/gloves in prison / Not sure

You said earlier that you had spent some time in a juvenile detention centre.

Did you ever have any sexual contact with another female[male] while you were there?

Now we would like to ask you about some of the reasons you might have ever had sexual contact with another inmate in prison.

To avoid being physically or sexually assaulted by someone else i.e. for protection?

To pay for drugs?

To pay for other goods (like food etc.)?

To repay any other debt?

For pleasure?

When was the last time you had sex with another inmate? By sex we mean any kind of contact you felt was sexual, not just intercourse. [*If necessary, ask: How long ago was that?*]

Did you agree to this? [*If necessary, ask: Did you consent to this sexual contact?*]

Yes / No / Sort of / Not sure

How old was she[*he*]? [*Prompt with age ranges if needed.*]

The last time you had sex, did you have oral sex with her mouth on your vaginal area?

Did you have oral sex with your mouth on her vaginal area?

Did she touch or rub your vaginal area with her hand?

Did you stimulate, touch or rub her vaginal area with your hand?

[*Corresponding questions asked of men about oral and anal sex, genital touching, use of condoms and lubricant.*]

And the last time you had sex, did you have an orgasm?

Have you ever felt sexually frustrated during your time in prison? [*If necessary, clarify: During any time in an adult prison, not just this sentence.*]

Have you ever masturbated alone in prison?

In the last four weeks, how many times did you masturbate alone? [*Orgasm is not required for activity to count as masturbation.*]

In prison, have you ever masturbated while someone else was in the same room or cell? (That is, someone you weren't having sex with at that time.)

Sex on release or between sentences

You said earlier that you have had day, weekend or work release.

Have you ever had sex with someone during day, weekend, work or study release? By sex we mean any kind of contact you felt was sexual, not just intercourse.

You said earlier that this is not your first time in prison.

Thinking about the last time you were released from prison. How soon after leaving prison did you have sex? By sex we mean any kind of contact you felt was sexual, not just intercourse.

Was this with a male or female?

Who was this with? What was their relationship to you? [*Pause and read out list with numbers.*]

- 1 Regular partner that you talked about before
- 2 Another regular partner
- 3 Occasional sexual partner
- 4 Casual partner or one-night-stand
- 5 Sex worker
- 6 Other (specify)

Thinking about the first sex you had after your last release from prison.

Did you have vaginal or anal intercourse?

Was a condom used?

In the two weeks after you were released from prison, did you have unprotected sex with a man[*woman*]?

In the two weeks after you were released from prison, did you –

- Take illicit drugs?
- Share drug-injecting equipment?
- Drink alcohol?

And did you drink more than six standard drinks in any one day? *[If necessary, add: Remember, we are just asking about the first two weeks after your release. One standard drink is 2 middies of low-alcohol beer, 1 middie of ordinary beer, 1 small glass of wine, 1 small glass of fortified wine, 1 nip of spirits (30 ml) or just less than a bottle of wine cooler.]*

How often did you drink more than six standard drinks in a day?

- Every day or almost every day
- Three or four days per week
- One or two days per week
- Once in that fortnight

In the two weeks after your release did you get paid to have sex with someone?

In the two weeks after your release did you pay to have sex with someone?

Physical and sexual assaults in prison

The next section is about situations that you may have encountered in prison. We do not want to know specific details like names or places, just if you have experienced them. The first couple of questions are about physical assault, not including sexual assault.

Have you ever been assaulted or attacked in prison? *[If necessary, clarify: Beaten up or injured.]*

How many times?

In your time in a juvenile detention centre, were you ever assaulted or attacked?

Now some questions about sexual assault in prison. By sexual assault we mean any sexual contact that you do not consent or agree to.

Thinking about before you came into prison, did you worry about being sexually assaulted in prison?

Are you currently frightened of being sexually assaulted in prison?

Have you ever been threatened with sexual assault in prison?

How many times?

In prison, have you ever been forced or frightened by anyone into doing something sexually that you did not want to do?

How many times has this happened to you?

How old were you at the time? *[How old were you the first time this happened to you in prison?]*

How long had you been in prison when this [first] happened to you?

Where did it happen?

- Cell
- Showers
- Yard
- Common area
- Other (specify)

Was this done by one person or more than one person? *[If necessary, clarify: The first time this happened was it done by one person or more?]*

- One person only
- More than one person

How many?

Was this person [one of these people] your cellmate?

Was this reported to a member of staff? *[This includes both prison officers and clinic staff or nurses.]*

Have you talked to someone else about it or sought help?

Who did you talk to? *[If respondent uses general term like chaplain, nurse, doctor or psychologist, clarify whether this was a professional in the community or prison. Say: Was this person in the community or someone working with inmates? Accept multiple responses.]*

- Brother or sister (sibling)
- Parent
- Friend
- Rape crisis centre
- Hospital
- Police
- Teacher
- Chaplain or other religious person
- Counsellor, psychologist, etc
- Doctor or nurse
- Magazines, newspapers, radio
- Spouse/partner
- Other relative
- Another inmate
- Justice Health nurse/doctor (including public/sexual health nurse)
- Prison chaplain or other religious person
- DCS welfare staff (Drug & Alcohol, welfare, psychologist)
- Other welfare person working specifically with inmates
- DCS officer
- Other (specify)

Do you think you might have ever frightened or forced another inmate into doing something sexual that they didn't want to do? This includes sexual touching, oral sex or intercourse.

In your time in a juvenile detention centre, were you ever forced or frightened by anyone into doing something sexually that you did not want to?

General health

Thank you. Now some questions about your general health.

In general, would you say your health is –

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel nervous? All of the time, most of the time, some of the time, a little of the time or none of the time?

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel so sad that nothing could cheer you up? *[Read scale if necessary.]*

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel restless or fidgety?

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel hopeless?

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel that everything was an effort?

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel worthless?

In the past four weeks, about how often did you feel irritable or bad-tempered?

Do you currently smoke cigarettes, cigars, pipes or any other tobacco products? Would that be –

- Daily
- At least weekly
- Less often than weekly

Over your lifetime, would you have smoked at least a hundred cigarettes or a similar amount of tobacco?

For how many years did you smoke [have you smoked]? *[If respondent has stopped and started, add the smoking periods together.]*

[When you smoked,] How many cigarettes do[did] you smoke a day, on average? *[Do not use a pack value, give number of individual items.]*

In the twelve months before coming to prison, how often did you have an alcoholic drink of any kind?

- ___ day(s) a week
- Fortnightly or less
- Monthly or less
- Did not drink alcohol

On a day that you had alcoholic drinks, how many drinks did you usually have? *[If respondent asks: A drink is a glass of wine or beer or a nip of spirits.]*

Are you currently taking any medication for high blood pressure or a heart condition?

Have you ever been told by a doctor or nurse that you have diabetes or high blood sugar?

- No / Yes, diabetes / Yes, high blood sugar /
- Don't know

Were you pregnant when you first had diabetes or high blood sugar? Have you ever had diabetes or high blood sugar apart from when you were pregnant?

How old were you when you were first told you had diabetes or high blood sugar?

Have you ever been told by a health professional that you have or have had an emotional or mental health problem? *[Includes things like depression, schizophrenia, manic depressive psychosis, anxiety, personality disorder, alcohol dependence, drug dependence and ADD/ADHD.]*

And have you ever been admitted to a hospital or psychiatric ward because of an emotional or mental health problem?

Do you have a condition or disability that makes it hard for you to move around?

Sexual health and sexually transmissible infections

The next section is about sexual health, but not all the questions are about sexually transmissible diseases.

[Asked of men: Have you been circumcised? If necessary, clarify: Has the loose skin at the tip of your penis been removed? or Have you been through wati law?]

I will read out a list, and ask you to say yes or no to each one. Have you ever had –

- Cold sores or oral herpes (i.e. on your mouth)?
- Pubic lice or crabs?
- Genital warts? *[Not including wart virus on a Pap smear. Does include anal warts.]*
- [Women only]* Wart virus (HPV) indication on a Pap smear?
- Chlamydia?
- Genital herpes?
- Syphilis?
- Gonorrhoea?
- Pelvic inflammatory disease or PID? Pelvic infection and salpingitis are other common names.
- Bacterial vaginosis or gardnerella?
- Trichomoniasis or 'trike'?
- [Women only]* Thrush or vaginal candida?
- Hepatitis A?
- Hepatitis B?
- Hepatitis C?
- Any other pain or problem with your vagina, such as pain during sex or urination, or a blister, sore, rash, discharge, or any other condition you can't remember the name of?

Have you ever had a blood test for HIV? *[If necessary, clarify: There is a blood test that tells you whether or not you have HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.]*

Did your most recent test show that you – *[Only read out codes 1 and 2.]*

- 1 Have the virus (HIV positive)
- 2 Do not have the virus (HIV negative)
- 3 Waiting for results
- 4 Did not get results

Now we would like to ask you some questions about the public/sexual health nurses.

Do you believe that information you give to public/sexual health nurses about your sex life is kept confidential? *[If necessary, say: You don't need to have actually seen a public/sexual health nurse, as we are just asking for your opinion.]*

Would you feel comfortable seeing a public health nurse for any sexual health reason? *[If respondent asks, this is for reasons like physical examinations for sexual health problems, sexually transmissible infection or HIV tests, or wanting to talk about or get more info on sexual health. You don't need to have actually seen a public/sexual health nurse, as we are just asking for your opinion.]*

If you wanted to see a public health nurse for a sexual health issue, would you prefer a male or female nurse? *[If necessary, add: This includes getting a physical examination, talking about sex issues or asking for an STI or HIV test. You don't need to have actually seen a public/sexual health nurse as we are just asking for your opinion.]*

Female / Male / Either / Doesn't matter / Depends / Don't know / Not sure

Have you ever seen a public/sexual health nurse?

Have you ever been tested for a sexually transmissible infection while you were in prison?

Sexual attitudes

I'm now going to read a number of statements and I'd like you to tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strongly disagree with them. *[Repeat scale if needed.]*

Films these days are too sexually explicit.

Sex before marriage is acceptable.

If two people had oral sex, but not intercourse, you would still consider that they had had sex together.

An active sex life is important for your sense of well-being.

Abortion is always wrong.

Having an affair when in a committed relationship is always wrong.

Sex tends to get better the longer you know someone.

Sex between two adult women is always wrong.

Sex between two adult men is always wrong.

Sex between two inmates in prison is always wrong. *[If necessary, clarify: Between two consenting adult inmates.]*

It's OK for inmates to have sex in prison then go back to their partners.

Choosing to have sex in prison doesn't make you gay.

Inmates should be allowed to have private family visits (i.e. overnight visits) with family or partner.

Knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases

Not many more questions to go. The following statements are about sexually transmitted diseases. Please answer true or false for each. *[If respondent asks about correct answers to the knowledge questions, tell them to ask the recruiter who can give them the answers after the interview.]*

Chlamydia affects only women.

Chlamydia can lead to infertility in women.

Once a person has caught genital herpes, they will always have the virus.

Cold sores and genital herpes can be caused by the same virus.

AIDS only affects gay men.

You can tell who might have a sexually transmitted infection just by looking at them.

Have you ever taken any drugs, apart from prescribed drugs? *[Includes heroin, speed, cocaine, ecstasy, steroids or any recreational drugs.]*

Have you ever injected any drugs, apart from prescribed drugs? *[Includes respondent being injected by someone else. Includes heroin, speed, cocaine, ecstasy, steroids or any recreational drugs.]*

I'm going to read out some drugs. Please tell me for each one 'yes' or 'no' whether you used it in the twelve months before coming into prison.

Cannabis like marijuana, hashish

Heroin like smack, hammer, 'H', horse

Methadone

Other opiates like morphine, pethidine

Amphetamine like ice, speed, go, uppers, MDA

Cocaine like coke, flake, snow, crack

LSD or other hallucinogens like acid, trips, tabs, mushrooms, mescaline

Ecstasy like E, ecky, vitamin E, MDMA

Benzodiazepines like benzos, tranx, moggoes, rohies, vees

Steroids

Other drugs

Thinking about before you came to prison, did you ever use a needle after someone else had already used it?

This includes using a needle after your partner or a family member.

Since coming into prison, have you taken any drugs, apart from prescribed drugs? [*Includes heroin, speed, cocaine, ecstasy, steroids or any recreational drugs.*]

Since coming into prison, have you injected any drugs, apart from prescribed drugs? [*Includes heroin, speed, cocaine, ecstasy, steroids or any recreational drugs. Includes respondent being injected by someone else.*]

Now thinking about your time in prison, have you ever used a needle after someone else had already used it?

Have you ever been tattooed?

Have you ever been tattooed in prison?

Including earrings, have you ever had any body piercings?

What part or parts of the body have you had pierced?

- Ear
- Mouth or tongue
- Other face
- Genitals
- Nipples
- Belly button

Including earrings, have you ever had any body piercings done in prison?

[*Asked of men:* Have you ever inserted or implanted an object under the skin of your penis? *If necessary, clarify:* Things like ball bearings, pieces of plastic, metal or other objects, not including piercing. Have you ever done so while you were in prison?]

Conclusion

That's the end of the study questions, but as this is the first time this type of study has been done in Australian prisons I'd like to ask some quick questions about the questionnaire.

We understand that the questions may have been difficult to answer and don't worry, we won't make you do it again if you say it was.

How embarrassing did you find the questionnaire?

- 1 Extremely embarrassing
- 2 Very embarrassing
- 3 Quite embarrassing
- 4 Slightly embarrassing
- 5 Not at all embarrassing

How many of your answers do you think were honest? [*If necessary, add: This will not affect payment for the study.*]

- 1 All
- 2 Most
- 3 About half
- 4 A few
- 5 None

That's it. Thank you for your help. In case you missed it, my name is _____.

Don't forget to see the recruiter when you get off the phone. If you would like to discuss any of the issues covered in this interview, please let the recruiter know. They will be providing you with information about the services available to you if you need to talk to someone or have any health concerns.

Thank you once again.

Questionnaire © 2006 by Juliet Richters, Tony Butler, Kristie Kirkwood, Lorraine Yap and Basil Donovan, based on the Australian Study of Health and Relationships questionnaire, with advice from Luke Grant, Max Saxby, NSW Department of Corrective Services, Taverner Research and Anthony Smith.

Researchers interested in using these questions in other studies are urged to contact the research team through the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales, telephone (02) 9382 1945, email j.richters@unsw.edu.au.

APPENDIX 2: TOPICS COVERED IN THE IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS

Note that this schedule acted as a guide only. Not all questions were asked of all interviewees, and questions were not asked in these words, or in this order. Most probe and follow-up questions are not shown here.

Sexual networks and organisations

I would like to know more about your circumstances and how you came to this prison.

What did you know about prison before you came to prison the first time?

Tell me about your first night in prison. Did you have a cell mate? Did you get along?

Who were the first people you met in prison?

Who were your first friends in prison?

Are there people or groups you do not like or do not get along with?

Is there anyone who does not like you here?

Among the many groups in prison, which group do you mainly hang out with and why?

How long have you been in this group?

How would you describe your group compared with other groups in this prison?

Can you describe the people in your group? (Explore gender roles and sexual identities.)

What activities do you do together as a group?

Have you heard of sex occurring within these groups or between groups you have mentioned? (Explore circumstances and how they were prevented from recurring or were fostered, how people maintained their sexual identities and roles in sexual relationships.)

How about sexual assaults?

Sexual economies

How do people obtain goods or services here?

What are the most valuable goods or services and what are the least valuable?

What value do people place on sex in prison?

How do people obtain sex inside prison?

What counts as consent and non-consent?

How do people sell sex inside prison?

How about obtaining or giving sex for free inside prison?

How about obtaining and selling sexual objects?

What about the value of condoms inside prison?

Sex in prison

Have you heard of or have you experienced anything sexual with another inmate?

Did you have any sexual experiences that you liked or

did not like while in prison? How would you define your relationships with this person?

Have you told anyone about this relationship?

Would you have done the same thing with this person outside prison?

How has your sexual life in prison (including masturbation) been affected by other people in prison?

How has your sexual life in prison been affected by the small cells, spaces and prison architecture?

How has your sexual life in prison been affected by the prison activities and routine (e.g. lock-down)?

How are you coping in an all-male [all-female] environment and sharing the same spaces (toilets, showers etc.) with many people?

Sex outside prison

Did you have any sexual experiences that you liked or did not like outside prison? When was this?

Did you have any sexual experiences you liked or did not like when you were a child? How old were you?

Is this your first time in prison?

Has your sexual life outside prison been affected by your time in prison?

Did you talk about sexual life in prison to your partner or family members?

HIV and other STIs and stigma

Do you know anything about sexually transmissible infections?

What types of STIs do you know of?

How about HIV and AIDS?

How does HIV affect people's sexual behaviour and practices in prison?

What are your chances of contracting an STI in prison? Which STIs? Why?

What are your chances of contracting HIV in prison? Why?

Sexual meanings

What do you mean by:

- sexual consent and non-consent?
- sexual assault?
- rape?

How else do you refer to this concept in prison?